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Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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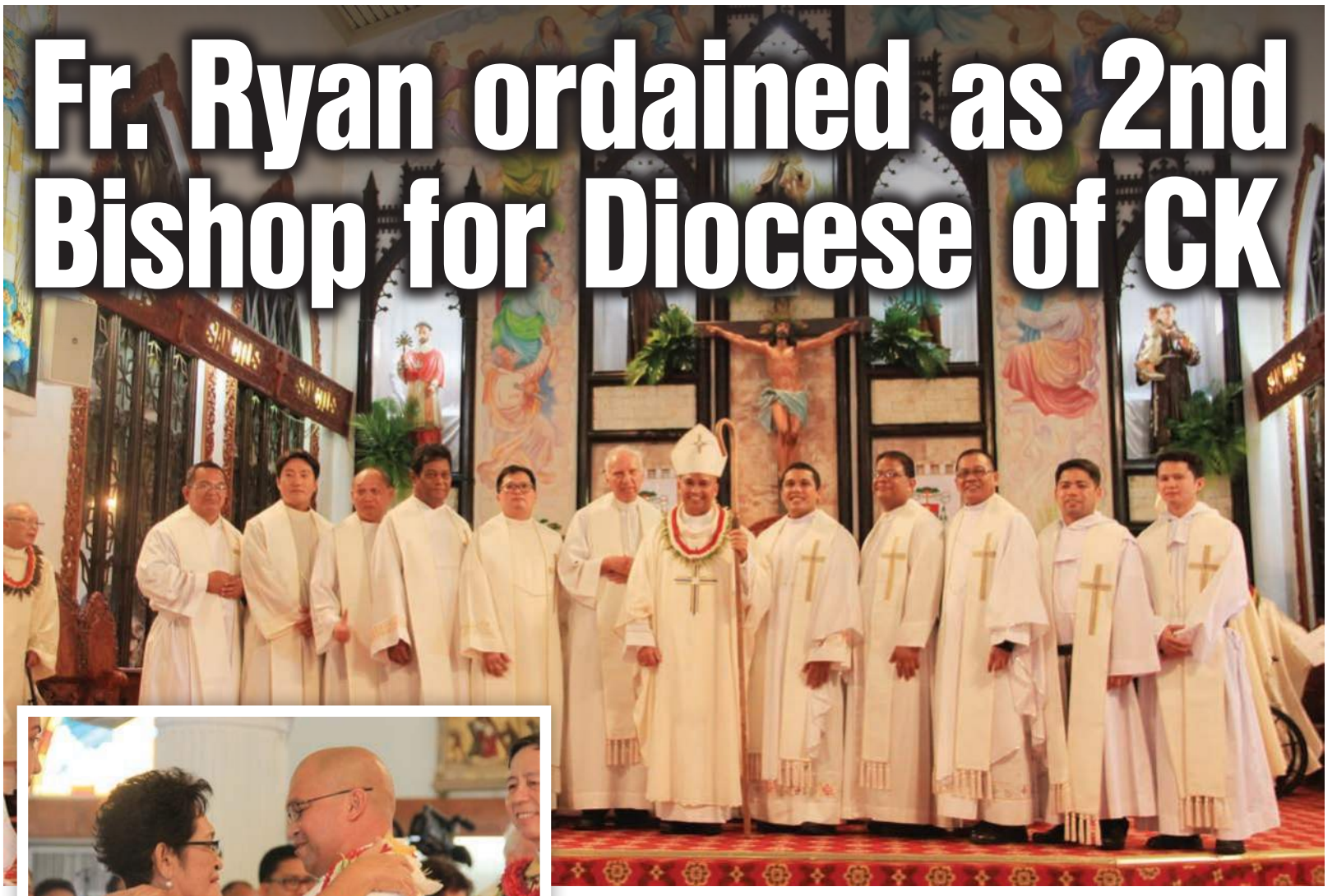
# Fr. Ryan ordained as 2nd Bishop for Diocese of CK



JON PEREZ

Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, seventh left, joins priests of the parishes in the CNMI after his Episcopal Ordination and Installation as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa yesterday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Inset, Bishop Jimenez, right, embraces his mother Lilia.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rev. Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez was ordained and installed to the Order of Bishops yesterday in a three-hour long ceremony steeped in tradition of the Catholic faith. Jimenez became the second bishop of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa after Bishop Emeritus Most Rev. Tomas A. Camacho, D.D.

Camacho, who officiated Jimenez's priestly ordination in 2003, was one of the three ordaining bishops that officiated the Episcopal Ordination and Installation. Most Rev. Savio Tai-Fai Hon, SDB, was the principal ordaining bishop, while Most Rev. Julito B. Cortes, DD, is the other ordaining bishop.

Hon is the Secretary of the Congre-

See BISHOP on Page 4

# Pangelinan: Time for exploring, growing

## » Hopes weather cooperates as public schools open today

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Acting Education commissioner Yvonne R. Pangelinan is hoping the weather would cooperate so classes in all public schools would go smoothly as planned. Tropical Storm Chanthu, since yesterday, had been battering the islands with heavy rains and strong winds.

"[Today] marks a new year of exploring and growing for our kids. We are eager to see their smiling faces once more," Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune*. "We hope the weather subsides enough to have a smooth first day."

Pangelinan

As of 8pm last night, Chanthu is moving north-northeast packing maximum sustained winds of 40mph but is expected to move further away from the Marianas by Monday afternoon.

Pangelinan, who was appointed by the CNMI State Board

See PANGELINAN on Page 4

# Tropical Storm Chanthu intensifies

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

## » But moving farther away from Marianas

The low pressure area that turned into Tropical Storm Chanthu is forecast to intensify slowly over the next couple of days, but is expected to continue to move away today, Monday, from the Marianas, according to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam last night.

As of 7pm yesterday, packing maximum sustained winds at 40 miles per hour, Tropical Storm Chanthu was moving north-northeast at 18mph. Its center was 205 miles east-southeast of Iwo To or 575 miles north of Saipan or 680 miles north of Guam.

Deleon Guerrero

Chanthu is expected to continue to move away from the Marianas with a slight turn to the north-northwest by this afternoon, Monday.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management on Friday afternoon called the "critical agencies" at the Emergency Operations Center in Capital Hill, where they went over the NWS' weather

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## INSIDE

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This summer, Tan Holdings' Corporate Affairs sent out applications for an internship program for children of employees between the ages of 16 and 18.
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**LOCAL**
Protestant churches joined the Catholic faithfull in celebrating Bishop-elect Fr. Ryan Jimenez's installation and ordination Sunday with a cycling event, dubbed "Bike the Faith," last Saturday, Aug. 13.
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**LIFE & STYLE**
Kenny Baker played the lovable droid R2-D2 in the "Star Wars" films, achieving cult status and fans' adulation without showing his face or speaking any lines.
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# Local

## Finance asks for $4.8M for new tax lawyer, stronger enforcement section

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

On why Saipan casino revenue projections came so late in the fiscal year and near budget deliberations for next year, Department of Finance Secretary Larissa Larson says these revenues are "separate from the budget" and are a "special source of funding."

"So it's different. It's not something where they have to follow the budget schedule," Larson said, responding to questions from *Saipan Tribune* on Friday.

"There are issues we have with disclosure," she added. "We have to have the right to disclose the information because all tax information is protected. So until we have that we can't reveal it, even if the law says that money is available.

Some House of Representatives lawmakers have criticized the Finance Department for coming slow with these figures but Larson indicated that revealing the figures at this time was appropriate or "worthwhile."

"So we got the disclosure. Then the payments started increasing recently, so it's worthwhile to do the appropriations now—that's why what's prompting all of this," she said after a budget hearing with the House of Representatives on Friday.

As for fiscal year 2017 projections, Larson said "we haven't got that far." "… This is a new industry for the CNMI, we don't have any trends to look at. We kind of have to see what's coming. We are working on projections with the [Commonwealth] Casino Commission but we don't have them yet. We are working with what we have now because it's a sizeable amount of money now we can use."

The CNMI has received $30 million in casino revenue taxes from the Saipan casino, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., as of July 30, according to Larson on Friday.

As for the reported $47 million in casino taxes for this fiscal year, Larson emphasized this was "a projection" and "not actual."

"They are projecting in the next couple of months we will collect a full $47 [million]," she said.

During the hearing Friday, Larson also spoke to recent proposed bills to add new government agencies eligible for Saipan casino tax funds under the casino law, or "amendments" to casino law "where the BRGT can be applied." Some new bills have proposed making the departments of Fire and Public Safety eligible, for example.

Larson said during the hearing that they need to think about retirees and look into the possibility of setting aside portion of BGRT in case of any disruption to retiree benefits.

House vice speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) has introduced a bill to essentially set aside $5 million of the casino BGRT to cover the "shortfall" in funds to retirees in the fifth year of casino. The CNMI government took the first and fifth year casino license application fees upfront, leaving a gaping hole in the fifth year.

"We just need to anticipate and set some money aside so we don't disrupt our retirees' payments," Larson reiterated in the interview. "The 75 percent [pension] is already covered by the [government] appropriation but the 25 percent is the one that is depending on the funding availability. So we just have to think ahead, so we don't struggle at the last second to come up with something."

### Finance asks for $4.8M

Larson says they are requesting $4.8 million for their department's budget, in line with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' original proposal.

Finance has plans to hire a lawyer specializing in taxes and to bolster their enforcement section with more officers.

"We actually have a legal counsel coming on board. He's very experienced. He has a tax degree as well as a law degree. Something really critical to not only Finance but the CNMI, as we come across tax issues," Larson said. "It's good to have someone with the experience, the specialized expertise to answer questions."

Larson also added they are "always beefing up" enforcement.

"It's something that hasn't really been done for a long time, so step by step we are working toward a really strong enforcement unit," Larson said. "Not only on the enforcement on cash receipts and business licenses but also the actual filing of taxes and so on, to make sure people are filing properly."

## DEMS issues smoldering fire advisory

On Monday, the Department of Fire and Emergency Management Services sent its Search and Rescue unit with Engine 1 from the Kagman Station to the smoldering fire in Kagman. The fire is a deep-seated fire and is in very unstable terrain.

The Department of Fire and EMS is aware of the smoke and we are working with other agencies to try and mitigate the problem. Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, DFEMS, and the Saipan Mayor's Office advise those with respiratory problems to stay indoors to prevent further odors and smoke from entering the home. ***(PR)***

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Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

*Tourism is everybody's business.*

**2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures**

The 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures returns to the Northern Mariana Islands beginning Aug. 20, 2016.

The festival will be held every Saturday evening from 5-10 p.m. at Paseo de Marianas in Saipan and will celebrate the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands. The festival will feature performances, cultural demonstrations, ethnic cuisine, arts and crafts, and more. Festival date are Aug. 20 & 27 and Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24. Admission is free.

For more information, contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3210 for more information.

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**GREEN GALA TITLE SPONSOR** CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance recently welcomed Tan Holdings and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation as Title Sponsors of its signature fundraising event, the Green Gala. The Green Gala, which will be held on Friday, Sept. 2, 2016, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Hibiscus Hall, aims to raise critical funds to help MINA, a nonprofit organization, continue its work in protecting and conserving the environment. There are four categories of sponsorship (Emerald, Title, Major, and Event categories) that correspond to the value of companies' contribution. To become a sponsor of the event, contact Becky Furey at 233-REEF (7333), or email minaoutreach@gmail.com.

# House passes bill to prohibit sale of betel nut to minors

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives on Thursday voted to approve a bill to prohibit the sale of betel nut to minors.

All House of Representatives members present voted to pass the bill, House Bill 19-65, Senate Substitute 1, in their session last week.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) with Rep. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan) last year, prohibits the sale of Areca Nut, or betel nut, to any person under the age of 18.

Among other provisions, the bill requires business to post signs reading "BETEL NUT SALE IS PROHIBETED TO PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18," and enforces fines ranging from $100 to $500 and a revocation of the license to sell betel nut.

The bill is intended to protect the youth from the dangers of developing oral cancer, amid the public health concern of rising oral cancer cases in the community.

Studies conducted in 2003 and 2009 by the International Agency for Research on Cancer confirmed that betel nut chewing, with or without tobacco, could cause oral cancer.

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TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

# Lubrani: Violence against women must be addressed

**SIGATOKA, Fiji**—Violence against women is an issue that cuts across all areas of development and unless it is effectively addressed, ambitious frameworks such as the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be difficult to achieve for Pacific countries.

This was the message on Saturday at a meeting of Pacific practitioners in eliminating violence against women by UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Osnat Lubrani at the Warwick Resort in Sigatoka.

In her keynote address to the seventh quadrennial meeting of the Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women (PWNAVAW), Ms Lubrani spoke of how achievement of the SDGs are intimately linked with the ability to bring down the high prevalence of violence against women in the Pacific.

Lubrani spoke of the consultations the UNDP is carrying out in the Pacific to help countries advance the SDGs agenda in line with their own national development priorities.

"In each and every of these consultations, the issue of violence against women comes up and it doesn't come up just when we discuss goal five of gender equality. It comes up in each and every area," Lubrani said.

"One of the phrases that has accompanied the adoption of this agenda is 'leave no one behind. It's a very powerful phrase but when you think about it, it is not easy to achieve because these are people who don't have a voice, they cannot find us so it's for us to go out and find those left behind, bring them and lift them into the agenda."

The SDGs are an intergovernmental set of 17 aspiration goals adopted by the United Nations in September 2015 aimed at ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring prosperity for all. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years.

The 17 goals include gender equality, reduced inequalities, and the promotion of peace, justice and strong institutions.

Shamima Ali, the coordinator of the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre which administers the Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women, said: "Often we work with violence against women in a void and not make the linkages. And those of us who work in this area know that violence against women underpins all the issues out there."

Seema Naidu, the gender officer of that the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), relating the Pacific context of SDGs, said ending violence against women remained a commitment of Forum leaders through the Pacific Leaders' Gender Equality declaration.

"Reporting and strong accountability systems on eliminating violence against women has been promoted through the Forum statements at the Commission on the Status of Women," Naidu said.

Abigail Erikson, the Ending Violence Against Women Programme Specialist at UN Women in Suva explained that SDGs were significant because they contained a specific commitment to gender equality.

"To have violence and the centrality of violence focused on within these Sustainable Development Goals is important because violence often gets swept under the rug in some of these big commitments and there are broad statements about equality, focusing on economic independence or access to education, but this also brings violence out and I think that matters for us in this time and place,"Erikson said.

The 7th Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women Meeting continues until Friday, Aug. 18, at the Warwick Resort. ***(PR)***

## BISHOP

*From Page 1*

gation of the Evangelization of Peoples and the Apostolic Administrator of the Archdioces of Agana, while Cortes is the Bishop of Dumaguete.

Archbishops Most Rev. Peter Choy Long, DD, of Fiji; Most Rev. Jose Palma, DD, of Cebu; Most. Rev. Amando Samo, DD, of the Caroline Islands; and Most Rev. Daniel Parcon, DD, concelebrated the mass.

Clergy from the Archdioceses of Agana, Manila, Capiz, and Cebu, and the dioceses of Chalan Kanoa, Caroline Islands, Dumaguete, Laog, and San Jose and San Francisco in California, and from the Society of Jesus, and Augustinian Recollects also concelebrated the mass.

Hon, in his homily, offered Jimenez some reflections of his Episcopal ministry on the words said by Mary when she visited her cousin Elizabeth: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant."

Hon said being a bishop is part of the apostolic succession of the Church. "This is the proclamation of your new obligation to the community. What's important is for you to guide the community under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

He then asked the people to always include Jimenez to their prayers so he may fulfill his duties and obligations to the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. "That he may have a life of prayer to help us to be closer to God in a community of holiness."

Palma read the message of Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas, DD, where the current president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines congratulated Jimenez, a native of Siquijor in the Phillipines.

"You have been the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa for the past six years and this a testament of your missionary call to the Church. We welcome you to the Episcopal fraternity and ministry. And with your guidance, the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa become a home for the faithful to witness and encounter the love of Christ," said Villegas in his message.

Jimenez, in his first time to address the crowd as bishop, said he chose the motto Volumus Iesum Videre or We wish to see Jesus a verse taken from John 12:21. "To see is to go down deep. After we go down deep, only then that we believe. To look down deep is to see what God had promised to us."

He said that when he first received his appointment it was an answered prayer from God that finally the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa will have a new bishop. "But I prayed after that, 'Lord, surely you could have done much better.'"

"Because when I look at myself, I see a weak and simple creature. You all know me. You have seen my faults, my frailties. There's nothing that I hide from you. The words of St. Paul also came to my mind, 'you the weak, make them strong and they are able to see You.'"

He then told the faithful to remind him of his duties and what he vowed to do if ever he forgets it. "This is not about me. It is not about power but the humble service to God and His church. And if ever I forget that, just tell me."

Jimenez also explained a part on his coat of arms that has an outrigger canoe sailing in between two islands. He said that it symbolizes his journey from the Philippine island of Siquijor to the islands of the Northern Marianas. "We may be divided by the vast ocean but if we look down deep we will see that the islands are not all separated. All the islands are all connected."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who attended yesterday's installation with first lady Diann Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, said in a statement that Jimenez's ordination to the office of bishop is a great blessing to the people of the CNMI.

"[Jimenez]. Who though not born here, has made this place his home to nurture our people's faith and spirituality. May the blessings of the Almighty be with you as you assume the great responsibility of shepherding the flock here in the Northern Marianas," said Torres.

Palau President Tommy Remengasau, House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan), Attorney General Edward Manibusan, Chief Justice Alexandro Castro, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, Department of Public SafetyCcommissioner Robert Guerrero, and other members of the CNMI administration and Legislature also attended yesterday's ceremony.

Jimenez's older brother, Roy, said their family is grateful on his ordination as bishop. "In behalf of the family, we felt so blessed and we're happy. We just want to thank the people of Diocese of Chalan Kanoa for supporting my brother Bishop Ryan."

"We are happy and proud of having a member of the family who becomes a shepherd of God's flock. I congratulate the people of CNMI," he added.

Bishop Jimenez is the second of four children by Rogelio B. and Lilia P. Jimenez. Ray and Rochelle are his other siblings. He was Chancellor under the then Bishop Camacho and became the diocese's Apostolic Administrator upon the death of Rev. Fr. Manuel Corcuera in 2010.

Corcuera took over the diocese's administrative duties when Camacho retired in the same year at the age of 76.

## PANGELINAN

*From Page 1*

of Education on an acting capacity, said the Public School System has been preparing for the resumption of classes for more than two weeks.

"We are excited to have our students back in school. Administrators and teachers have worked tirelessly to prepare their classrooms. Our vendors with the Food and Nutrition Program have been making sure all cafeterias are ready," said Pangelinan.

"School teams are ready to work with the programs and facilitate learning support. Training [also] took place last week to ensure that teachers were updated on the curriculum and instruction. Most parent orientations have been held last week or will be held this week."

She added that the Office of Pupil Transportation has also assessed all routes and bus stops last week. "Bus drivers are ready and have familiarized themselves with routes and assessing the roads."

OPT director Kimo Rosario said they are all set to transport more than 3,000 students to their respective public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The OPT is one of eight divisions in the PSS' administrative services that is directly under the Commissioner of Education.

Rosario, in a telephone interview, said they have checked all the buses that will be used to pick up and drop off the students. "We're all set and all fleets are ready. There are 17 active buses on Saipan that can carry 66 passengers each."

"They have been serviced, checked, tested, and ready to go. The drivers and I have assessed all the road conditions, routes, and bus shelters. The highways and gravel roads are all in good shape," said Rosario, who added that the same goes to the two buses each for Tinian and Rota.

There are also six vans ready to transport Special Education students here on Saipan with three having wheel chair lifters. Tinian and Rota had one each.

"We're not anticipating any problems and weather permitting we won't encounter any," added Rosario.

## STORM

*From Page 1*

forecast for the weekend.

Among those who attended the weather briefing were officials and representatives from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Public Works, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Public School System, Governor's Office, and others.

At the briefing, NWS warning coordination meteorologist Charles P. "Chip" Guard discussed the expected strong winds and rains brought about by the system.

HSEM special assistant Gerald Deleon Guerrero, in an interview, said they called the "critical agencies" just to be "ahead of the game" because according to Guard of NWS, CNMI is expecting about 22 to 30 miles of winds and a lot of rains.

"With that I called up Chip Guard to do this briefing this afternoon. I just want to be ahead of this game. Just a heads-up for everyone," Deleon Guerrero said.

Deleon Guerrero said the forecast was that it's not going to be as bad conditions the CNMI had the past weekend.

Press Secretary Ivan Blanco said the weather briefing, which was conducted by Guard, was initiated just to prepare the first responders team on the possibility that the CNMI may have strong winds up to 35 miles per hour.

"The initial projection it would be heavier than we experienced last week. Now it's more moderate, maybe on the same level. But just to get folks ready for heavy rains and flooding in low lying areas as well as winds. We understand that there are still folks out there staying in tents," Blanco said.

The press secretary said they are going to discuss further whether to open up a temporary shelter.

As of Friday, Blanco said they were not considering schools yet as temporary shelters because of the public schools' opening today, Monday.

He said the public schools will be the last resort if the weather gets worse.

Blanco said they are keeping the Arts Council office on alert as temporary shelter.

NWS yesterday warned operators of small boats to avoid sailing because of southwest winds of 20 to 25 knots and combined seas of 10 to 13 feet that will produce hazardous conditions.

NWS also warned people in the CNMI about hazardous surf up to 9 to 11 feet will persist through Monday night, then fall up to 8 to 10 feet on Tuesday, along the west facing reefs.

NWS said surf will remain hazardous through Friday.

MWS asked the people to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially those facing west, north or south as rip currents will be life threatening.

# CNMI visitor arrivals up 17 pct in July 2016

Visitor arrivals to the CNMI jumped 17 percent in July 2016 compared to July 2015. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 47,736 visitors in July 2016, compared to 40,882 visitors received in July 2015.

Arrivals from Korea posted their strongest month so far this year, jumping 38 percent in July to 21,092 visitors. With direct double daily flights from Seoul by Jeju Air, and double daily service from Incheon by Asiana Airlines in the summer season, arrivals from Korea to the NMI are projected to remain extremely strong through the end of this year. In addition to new flights launched last month from Korean Air's low cost carrier Jin Air, a fifth Korean airline is expected to launch service from Seoul to Saipan at the end of this year, driving continued rapid growth in Korean arrivals well into 2017.

Arrivals from China increased 9 percent compared to July 2015 to 19,572 visitors. With new charter flights launched by Dynamic Airways from Nanjing and Hangzhou, the MVA's China office worked with local tour operators to carry out a wide range of marketing promotions in support of the new flights, including an outdoor advertising campaign with a total exposure value of $285,000, as well as supporting media and travel trade FAM(ilarization) tours to boost the NMI's destination awareness in these new markets of China and increase flight bookings on the new flights. In addition, with heavy bookings by mainland Chinese visitors on PAL Express' new flights via Manila, and on Hong Kong Airlines new flights via Hong Kong, the number of Chinese visitors to the NMI is expected to rapidly rise for the remainder of this year.

Arrivals from Japan fell 26 percent to 4,172 visitors in July. The MVA is working hand-in-hand with Delta Air Lines and key agents to launch a large scale promotional campaign designed to secure the re-instatement of the second Narita flight by Delta during the coming months. In July, the MVA also appointed 227 Northern Mariana Islands Tourism Ambassadors among tour planners and travel agents that had participated in FAM tours to the islands earlier this year.

### Source markets economic highlights

In July the Japanese government slashed its domestic economic growth projection for this fiscal year due to the postponement of the consumption tax hike, previously planned for next April. The government now expects the Japanese economy to grow 0.9 percent in real terms in the year through March from the previous year, down from 1.7 percent forecast in January. The yen continued to grow in value against the US dollar for the eight month in a row, to an average of 103.85 yen for the month. South Korea's economy continued its flat performance for three straight fiscal quarters, growing 0.7 percent in the second quarter of this year, according to Bank of Korea. The average USD/WON exchange rate in July was 1,142.40 won, a slight decrease from the June rate of 1,168.35 won. ***(PR)***

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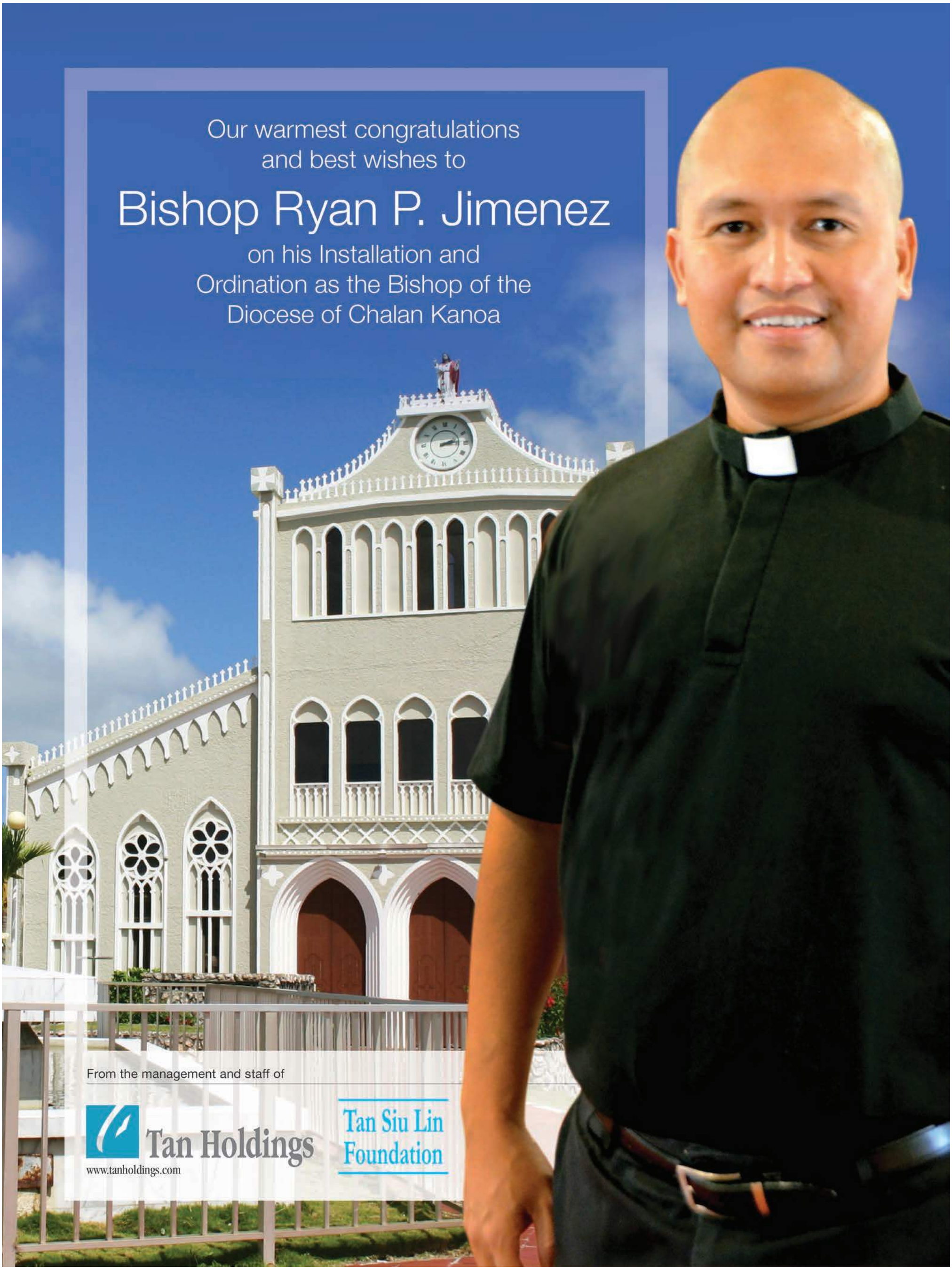
Kia Soul LX retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of $247.56 or $114.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $17,824.32.

Our warmest congratulations
and best wishes to

Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez

on his Installation and
Ordination as the Bishop of the
Diocese of Chalan Kanoa



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# Santos grateful for additional staffing for DCCA on Rota

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) is pleased that the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs has requested a budget for Fiscal Year 2017 adding more personell to the department's office on Rota as well as Tinian.

"A review of DCCA budget indicates personnel is allotted each for eligibility work in Child Care Licensing, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Nutrition Assistance Program," she said.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschnieder (R-Tinian) is in favor of the increase of budget for the DCCA. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' proposed budget of DCCA for fiscal year of 2017 is $2.425 million. DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter is asking a budget of $2.3 million for the coming fiscal year.

DCCA's budget for fiscal year 2016 was $1.4 million.

The increased budget for DCCA would allow the agency to hire additional personnel and is greatly beneficial to DCCA due to the steady decreasing number of applicants under NAP.

According to a press release by the NAP last July, the number of NAP registrations have been steadily dwindling down. With registrants reaching below 500 since 2009, the economy of the CNMI has been steadily improving.

Because of this boost in economic activity, Santos expressed gratitude toward Hunter's suggestion for Rota and Tinian's additional personnel to be appointed under social worker and the arts coordinator.

"I also expressed gratitude for Secretary Hunter's inclusion of two additional Full Time Equivalents (FTE's) for Rota and Tinian, that is, social worker and arts coordinator," said Santos. "But most especially [grateful to Hunter] for fully supporting the operations and other needs of Rota and Tinian's DCCA and Aging Program."

Santos is also appreciative of the efforts of Chief Justice Alexandro Castro and Presiding Judge Robert Naraja for offering the use of the courthouse.

"Appreciation is also extended to Chief Justice and Presiding Judge for allowing Rota CCA use of the other portion of the courthouse after the former CCA office was condemned or is no longer safe for usage," said Santos. Hunter was also praised once more for his effort. "Again, I commend secretary Hunter and his leadership for their continued support to our Rota and Tinian Offices."

# Air Force to conduct training at FDM, W-517

**ASAN, Guam**—The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Aug. 15 and 16 from 7:45am to 9pm
- Aug. 17 from 7:45am to 10pm
- Aug. 18 from 3am to 7pm
- Aug. 19 from 8:45am to 4pm

The Air Force will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) during the following dates and times:

- Aug. 15 and 16 from 9:30am to 9pm
- Aug. 17 from 9:45am to 5pm
- Aug. 18 from 9am to 5:30pm
- Aug. 19 from 9:45am to 10:30am

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, provide sufficient room to conduct the many training profiles required to support aircrew combat readiness requirements.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

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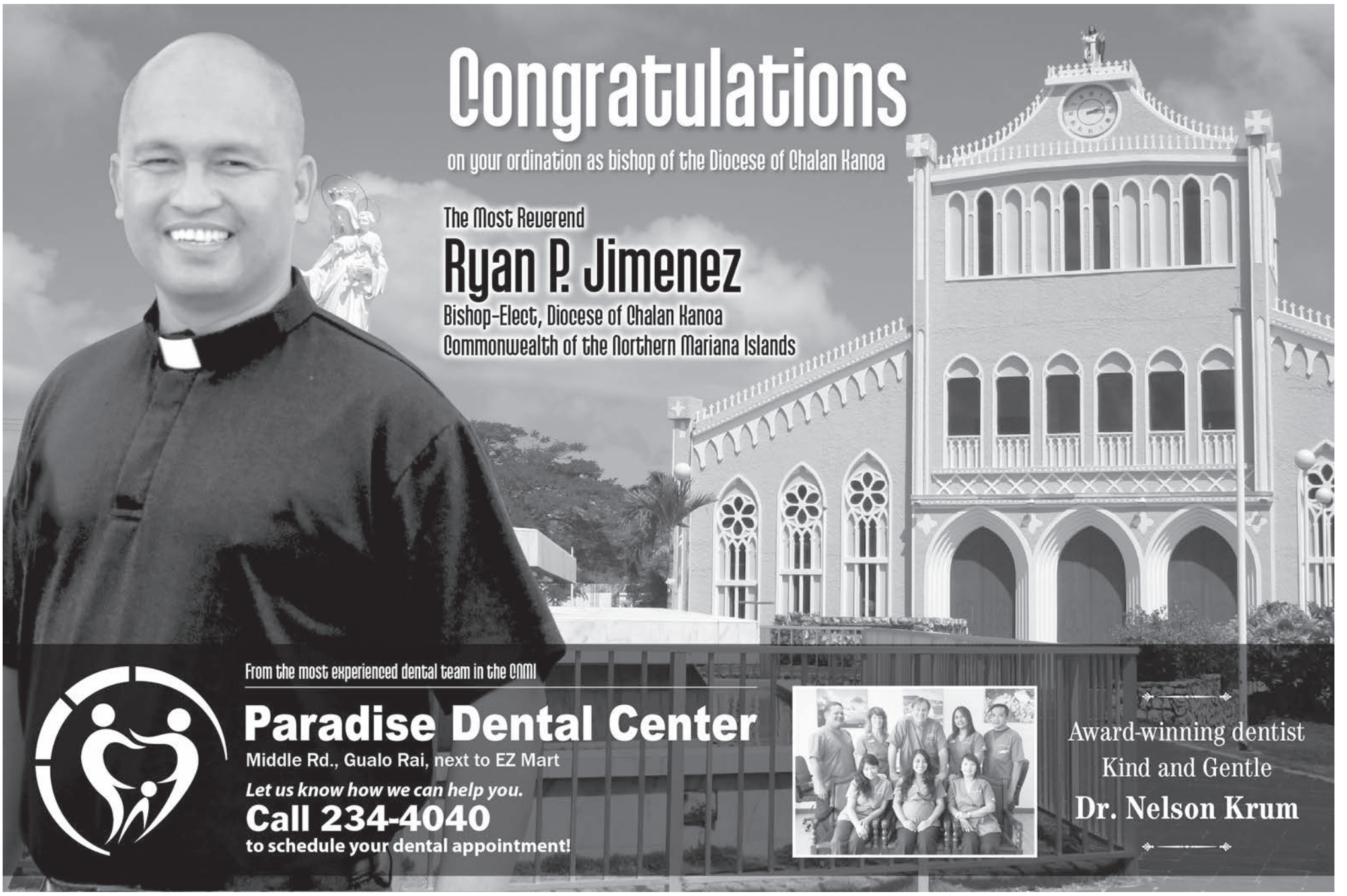
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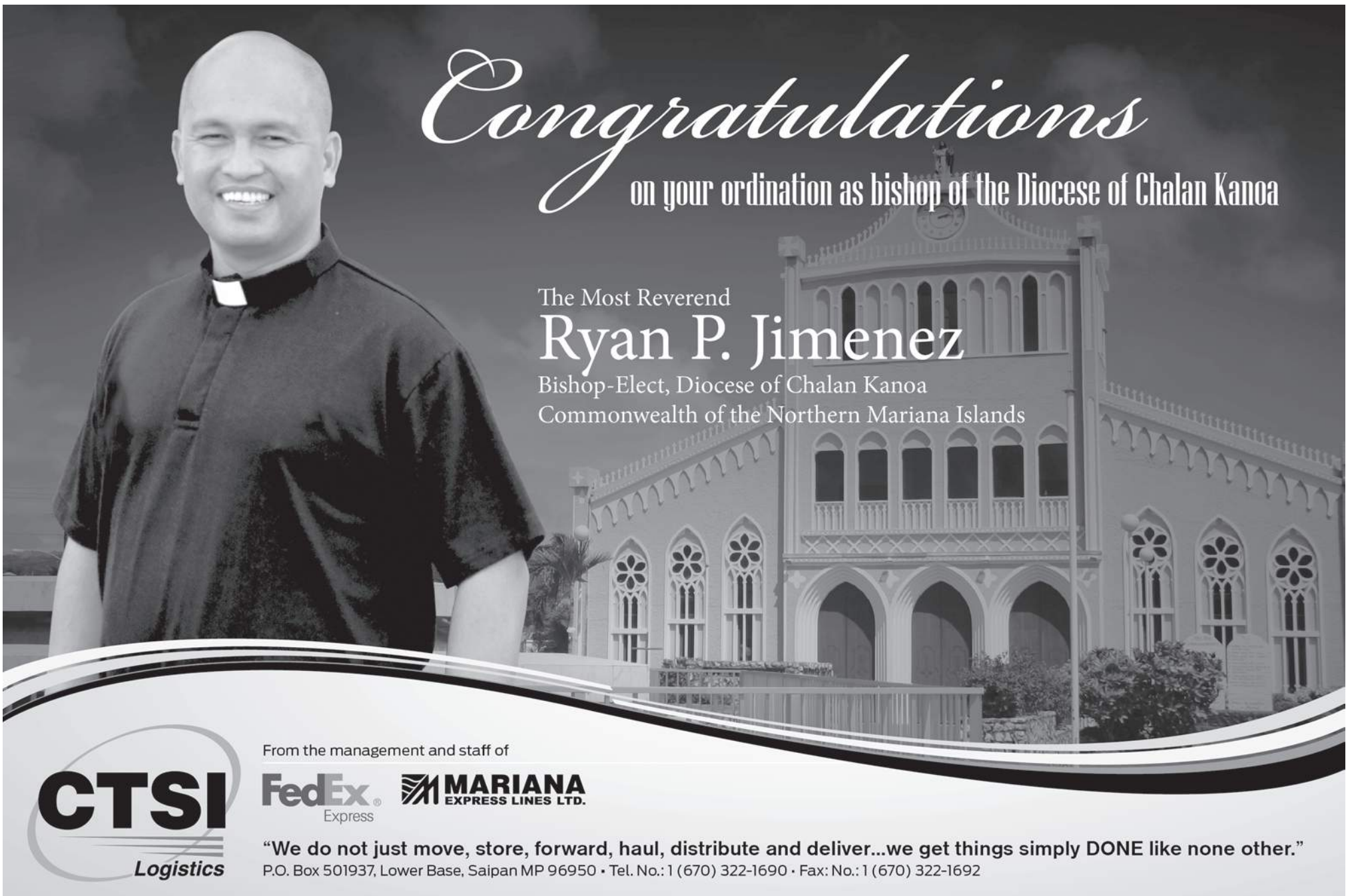
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tan Holdings' Corporate Affairs and Kanoa Resort's summer internship program culminated with a graduation ceremony at Kanoa Resort's Latte Stone Conference Room.

# Tan Holdings, Kanoa Resort hold internship program

This summer, Tan Holdings' Corporate Affairs sent out applications for an internship program for children of employees between the ages of 16 and 18.

This is the pilot year for this program and it began with a partnership with Kanoa Resort. Kanoa Resort general manager Wendi Herring and Operations director Glenn Policare warmly welcomed the program and created a curriculum that would provide a diverse amount of exposure for the students.

This included five departments within Kanoa Resort—Food and Beverage, Front Office, Sports and Recreation, Engineering, and Housekeeping.

On July 14, the students came in for an interview with Policare and Corporate Affairs Program specialist Eunice Angeles. The interview process was, for most of the students, the first interview that they experienced.

Every Monday, the students came in for personal development training with both Angeles and Tan Holdings vice president for Corporate Affairs Catherine Attao. Then, from Tuesday to Friday, the students would be at Kanoa Resort to report for duty.

Under the guidance and supervision of Ruth Anne Bagne, Ricardo Cruz Jr., Mario Domingo, Ribedindo Pablo, Arthur Saw, Danny Dela Cruz, Roy Tan, Darrel Roligat, and Matthew Duenas, the students were able to train, work and learn the specific tasks that each department implements daily.

Their daily tasks varied by department as well as their working hours. This taught the interns flexibility and time management. The interns also had the opportunity to volunteer for the JP Walk/Run that took place last July 30.

Volunteer work is highly valued at Tan Holdings and providing this opportunity for the interns was priority for Corporate Affairs. The internship program culminated with a graduation ceremony that was celebrated at Kanoa Resort's Latte Stone Conference Room with the interns' family and friends.

During her speech, program participant April Catagatan expressed her gratitude for a program that not only taught her practical work lessons, but life lessons that she can apply towards a brighter future. Next summer hold new opportunities for more individuals and SBUs (small business units) to participate in broadening the scope of the internship. ***(PR)***

Laurie Ann Deleon Guerrero
P.O. Box 8025 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 237-9014/287-8086

*Pro se*

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In the Matter of the Adoption of: | ) | FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION |
| Trevor Deleon Guerrero Minor Child | ) | NO. 16-0398 |
| | ) | **NOTICE OF HEARING** |
| By: | ) | |
| Jocelyn & Jonathan Park Petitioners | ) | |

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 22nd, 2016 at 1:30p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 27th day of July, 2016.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mohammad Shajahan Ali Petitioner, | ) | FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0346 |
| vs. | ) | |
| Pensiliter Alipet Respondent, | ) | **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION** |

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. BOX 504501, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 15th day of July, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court


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# Leader of group that smuggled $850K worth of 'ice' gets 188 months in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Xi Huang, a Chinese national tagged as leader of a group behind the shipment of 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine or "ice" then-worth $850,000 in 2015, was slapped on Friday in federal court with 188 months or 15 years and eight months of imprisonment for the offense of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona noted that in the Philippines, the campaign against illegal drugs waged by the country's President Rodrigo Duterte renders swift justice with execution.

"You are not in the Philippines. We are here in the U.S. and you are afforded due process," said Manglona in sentencing the 28-year-old Huang.

Manglona said "ice" has been wreaking havoc in this community, the U.S., and throughout the world.

The judge told Huang that his own brother, Biao, committed the same crime in the CNMI less than 10 years ago and was sentenced to 135 months imprisonment.

"That should be a big deterrence to you," Manglona said.

Huang was given credit for time served in prison. After serving the prison term, he will be placed on supervised release for three years.

After completing the prison term, Huang will be subjected to deportation proceedings. He was ordered to immediately pay a $100 court assessment fee.

Before the judge handed down the sentence, Huang spoke before the court. He cried uncontrollably along with his mother, who sat next to his father in the courtroom.

Manglona

"I beg to you your honor, give me another chance," said the crying Huang through an interpreter.

Huang said he will never commit the same crime.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe, counsel for the U.S. government, recommended 210 months imprisonment or 17.6 years.

Backe said Huang asserted a leadership role in this conspiracy as he was the one who coordinated the delivery of the "ice," paid for co-defendant, Shicheng Cai's travel and lodging, took Cai to get a fake CNMI driver's license in China, and was going to pay Cai $7,000-$8,000 for helping with the plan, among other things.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for Huang, recommended a 10-year prison sentence.

In an interview after the hearing, Torres said under the sentencing guidelines, Huang is looking between 17.5 years to the maximum of 20 years imprisonment.

Torres said in comparison to similar case from July 2015, the largest amount of "ice" seized in the CNMI, the court in Huang's case exercised discretion to go below and imposed the sentence 188 months.

**» Judge tells defendant he is fortunate that he's not in PH where president's war against 'ice' renders swift justice with execution**

Torres said for one reason articulated is the decision for Huang to do an open plea or an unprotected plea or without plea agreement that originally proposed a 10-year imprisonment, but for considerations did not proceed.

"So the court I believe considered all the factors," Torres said.

"It's regrettable for the loss of two brothers from the family but we understand the concerns regarding drugs. We believe that the court fully considered the arguments and we appreciate that much," he said.

Torres said one of the factors that the court has to avoid is what is called unwarranted disparity in sentencing.

The defense lawyer said compared to the 23 lbs from Zhenlin Fang and Yuliu Liu case, in which the two were sentenced each of 10 years of imprisonment, Huang's case involved 4.4 lbs.

Torres said Manglona found that the fact Huang has a brother who suffered similar conviction in 2008 merit it that distinction, that there was no disparity.

In sentencing Huang, Manglona said this year a defendant appeared before her and acknowledged the worst consequences when he lost his brother to drug overdose.

Manglona said "ice" is the type of drugs that has been wreaking havoc in the community.

Manglona said Huang's case is reportedly the second largest case involving the amount of drugs seized in the CNMI.

Manglona also acknowledged that Huang accepted responsibility and entered a guilty plea with no expectation of leniency.

The judge told Huang that while in prison, he will have the opportunity to improve himself by availing of continuing education program.

Manglona said if he would show good behavior in prison, Huang would possibly get credit and not serve the full 188 months.

After the hearing, the defendant was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Last March, Huang pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with one count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

At the change of plea hearing, Torres informed the court that the U.S. government would be withdrawing the plea agreement that the defendant had signed.

Torres said the defendant, however, was willing to proceed with an open plea and would be entering a guilty plea.

Backe stated that the sentence recommended in the proposed plea agreement was in exchange for certain things.

Backe said Huang was not willing to uphold one of the conditions, which was as an agreement that the other co-defendant was a co-conspirator.

Backe said the court should find that Huang is not entitled to a reduction in prison sentence, reject the plea deal, and then proceed with the change of plea hearing.

Torres did not object.

Manglona then advised Huang that she rejected the plea agreement.

Last June, Huang's co-defendant, Shicheng Cai, pleaded guilty. He has yet to be sentenced.

According to the indictment, Huang and co-defendants Shicheng Cai and Zhaopeng Chen conspired between Nov. 30 and Dec. 4, 2015, to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

A routine Customs inspection at the Port of Saipan of a 40-foot container from Guangzhou, China, resulted in the discovery of the 4.9 lbs of "ice" hidden in three plastic bags in one of the nine 5-gallon paint containers last Dec. 2.

Joint federal and local enforcers investigated the shipment, resulting in the defendants' arrest.

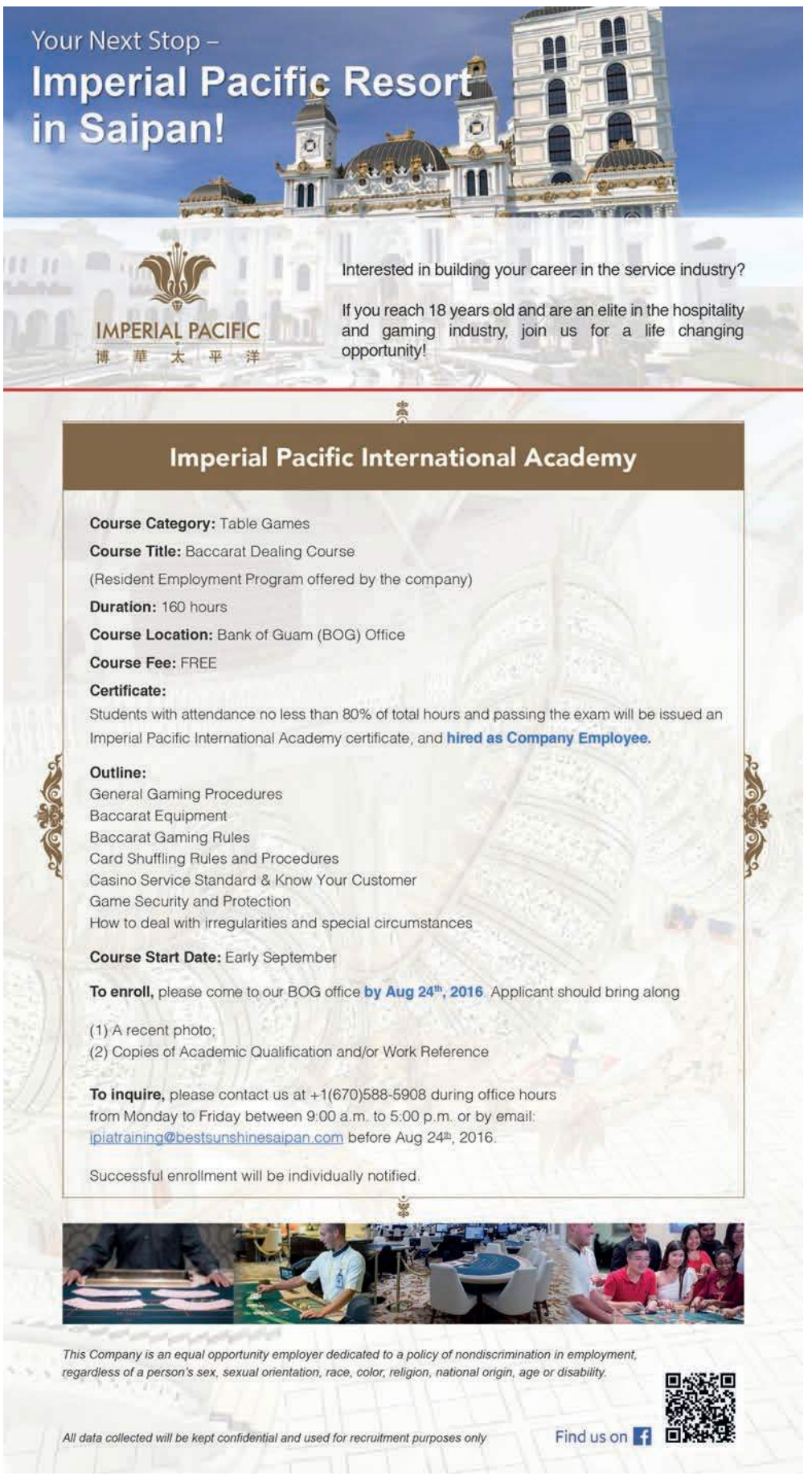
In 2010, the federal court slapped Huang's older brother, Biao Huang, with 135 months imprisonment, after he and a co-defendant tried to sell 947 grams of "ice" to a confidential source and an undercover FBI agent at a hotel in Susupe.

A total of 1,021.4 grams of "ice" worth $510,000 were reportedly seized prior to the arrest of Biao Huang and three co-defendants. At that time, it was considered as the largest "ice" haul in the CNMI history.

Xi and Biao Huang are sons of Yu Ren Huang and Lian Ying Chen, who are among the owners of Huangshun Corp.

Huangshun Corp. operates Sunshine Garden Hotel in Susupe and various businesses on Tinian, according to court documents.

The July 2015 arrest of Zhenlin Fang and Yuliu Liu and the seizure and detection of over 10,700 grams of "ice" worth about $4.3 million was reportedly the biggest drug haul in Commonwealth history.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Northern Marianas College (NMC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the Procurement of New Pick-up Trucks for CREES Saipan Main Station, As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Wednesday (July 13, 2016) through Friday, between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through the USDA-NIFA authorized under the Hatch Act, as amended August 11, 1955, Award #2015-31100 (Regular).

In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu). Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., August 15, 2016, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by the following:

/s/Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ Tim Kock, Ph.D
Dean, NMC CREES

# 4H Club, NMC-CREES thank Torres for summer partnership

In recognition of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' collaboration with the 4H Club and Northern Marianas College-CREES Camp Magalahi Summer Camp Program, 4H president Robert Suzuki presented two certificates of appreciation on Capital Hill for the camp's utilization and organization of the Carolinian Affairs grounds and the agricultural tours of Torres' family farm.

Torres

Suzuki shared that the 4H Club has been under his lead for the last six years in an effort to advance youth development, health and wellness, environmental conservation, agriculture, and leadership.

This year, Torres welcomed the students of Camp Magalahi to his family farm to learn about the importance of agriculture and sustenance.

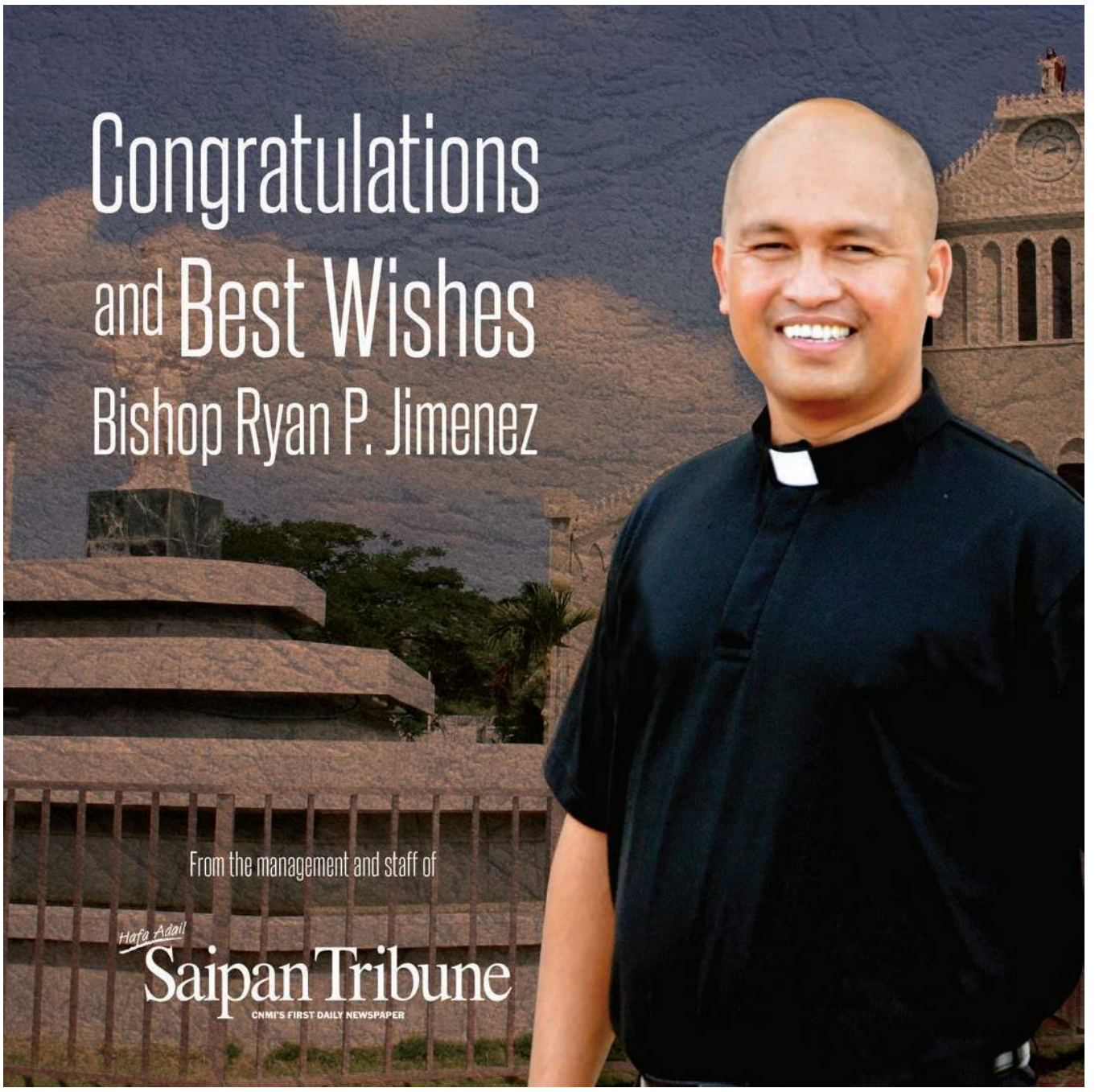
Torres along with the Department of Agriculture gave the first tour of his family farm to over 50 students from the USDA's Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program.

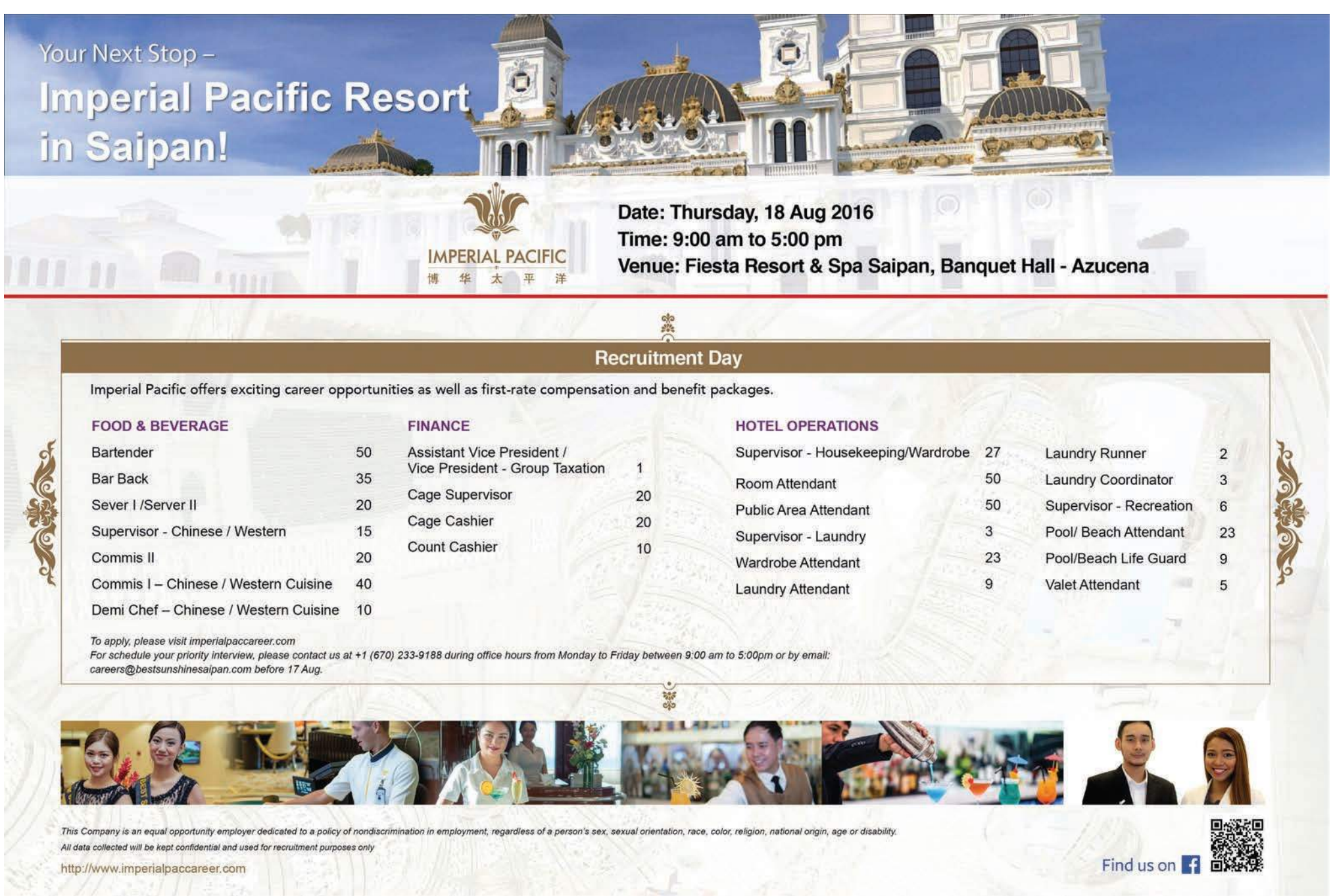
Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant John Tagabuel stated that fishing, weaving, and the art of celestial navigation are integral to youth development and cultural preservation. Students had a chance to learn basic celestial navigation from master navigator John Lalogo, weaving, and coconut husking and grinding, among other activities.

In previous years, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Division of Youth Affairs collaborated in these efforts to enhance youth development in the Commonwealth.

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog also expressed his appreciation to the Marianas High School students who served as camp counselors for the past eight weeks. He added that he hopes to see this program developed and extended to the islands of Tinian and Rota.

Hocog noted that Fiscal Affairs chair and Health & Welfare Committee member Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who was present during the presentation, would like to collaborate and see the program grow stronger in the coming years. ***(PR)***

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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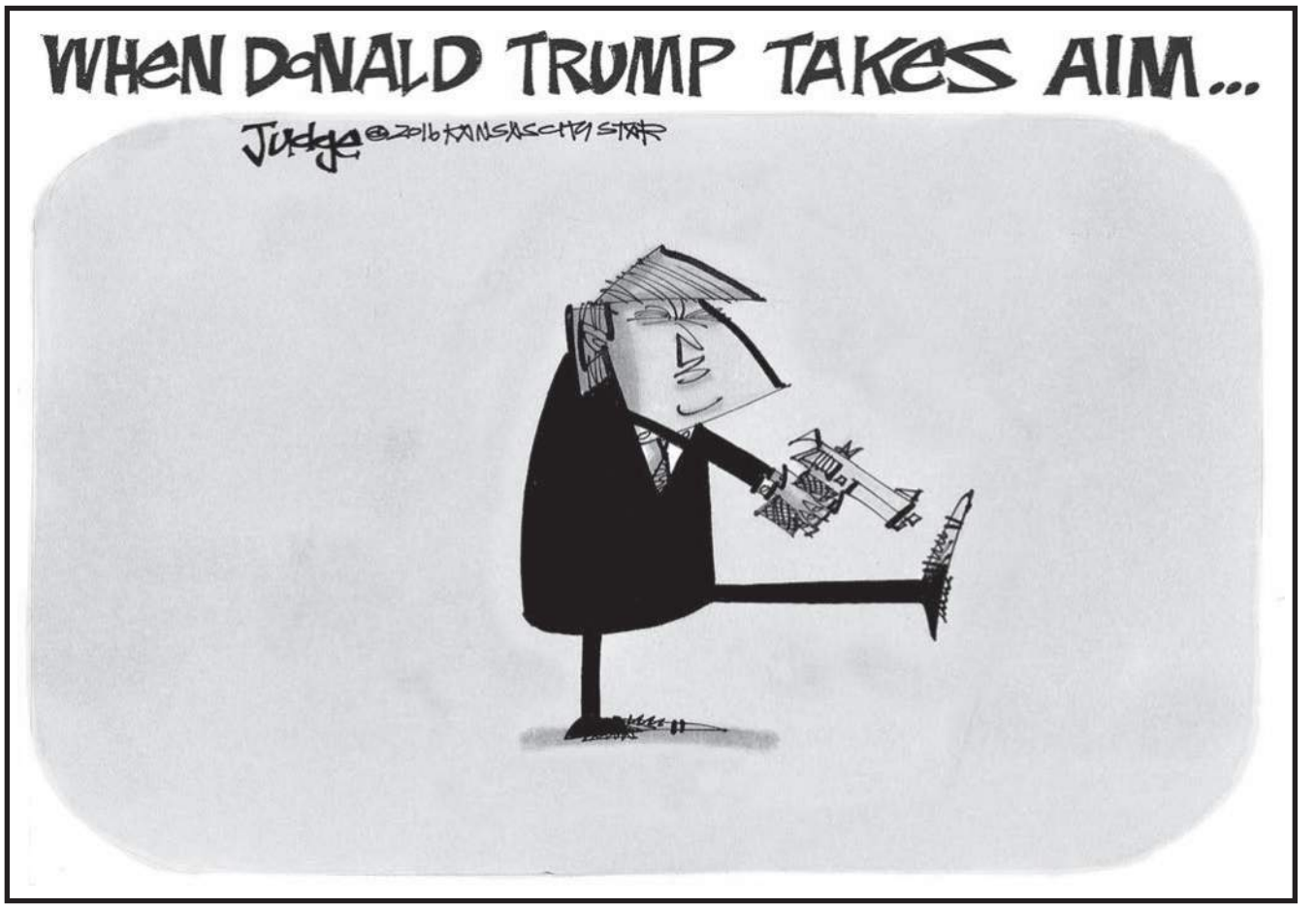



## EDITORIAL

# Hillary Clinton, judgment—and the gray areas

When Hillary Clinton became secretary of state in 2009, she set a historic precedent: a former first lady serving in a Cabinet post. The new job presented an ethical conundrum: how to keep separation between her work as the nation's diplomat-in-chief and the global activities of her husband, former President Bill Clinton.

The potential entanglement centered on the Clinton Foundation, Bill Clinton's charitable organization, which raised hundreds of millions from foreign governments, individuals and entities. With Hillary Clinton in the Obama administration, every check written to the Clinton Foundation could look like an attempt to curry favor with the secretary of state.

To get through the thicket, a series of agreements were hashed out between Hillary Clinton, the Obama White House and Clinton Foundation to avoid any conflicts of interest or, as all sides noted, even appearances of conflicts. Hillary Clinton said she would recuse herself from foundation activity, while the foundation agreed to publish its donor list annually and submit foreign donations to a State Department review. At a January 2009 confirmation hearing, Hillary Clinton said: "I will certainly do everything in my power to make sure that the good work of the foundation continues without there being any untoward effects on me and my service and be very conscious of any questions that are raised."

Fast forward three months to April of that year. Doug Band of the Clinton Foundation emails Hillary Clinton aides Huma Abedin and Cheryl Mills. Mills and Band had been involved in negotiating the main agreement that would prevent the secretary of state and Clinton Foundation from crossing ethical lines. So they knew what their bosses, Hillary and Bill Clinton, had promised: to avoid even an appearance of a conflict of interest.

Nevertheless, Band was writing to Hillary Clinton's aides on behalf of Gilbert Chagoury, a Nigerian billionaire of Lebanese descent who had donated $1 million to $5 million to the Clinton Foundation. Band wanted some help — quickly. "We need Gilbert Chagoury to speak to the substance person re Lebanon," Band wrote on April 25, 2009. "As you know he's a key guy there and to us and is loved in Lebanon. Very imp."

Abedin replied a few hours later that the right person at State was Jeff Feltman, the recent ambassador to Lebanon serving as an assistant secretary of state. "I'll talk to Jeff," Abedin wrote. Band's response: "Better if you call him. Now preferable. This is very important."

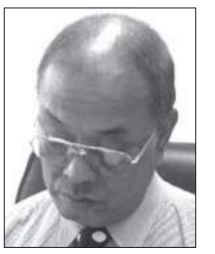
If you're keeping score at home: Aide to Bill Clinton writes to State Department aides of Hillary Clinton on a Saturday afternoon with an urgent request to provide access to a Nigerian billionaire. Appearance of a conflict of interest? Yes.

This email exchange doesn't appear out of the blue. As part of the controversy concerning Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while secretary of state, she turned over thousands of "work-related" emails to the State Department. For reasons we don't know, this exchange wasn't part of the record. It was obtained by Judicial Watch, a conservative group, through a Freedom of Information lawsuit, one obvi-

*See HILLARY on Page 13*

# Dosage of distance and detachment

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

There are two words often talked about over coffee relating to behavior of politicians after an election: distance and detachment. Let's see if we could jointly define what they are so it is understood before the midterm election this November.

The first word is when politicians avoid one-on-one meetings with people they represent. The latter is the show of arrogance by avoiding listening to the concerns of their people. It's an interesting behavior they find hard explaining to voters handicapped by the truth of it all.

It isn't an unusual mode of behavior when they hook up with filthy rich donors who instantly turn them into servile or slave-like lapdogs. It is known as the "elite culture" fostered and nurtured to ensure things run smoothly in a relationship that treats real time constituency as bastardized kids. Interesting!

In spite of the obvious abandonment, we wake up to the morning sun, head to work to earn our dues to meet family needs. Didn't legislators recently increase their salaries to $90,500 per year? Is this an issue they prefer hiding from voters? Is this a reason to ignore and treat us like we don't even exist? This gross insensitivity would easily turn into negative votes this November. It's pay back time, people.

Bewildering how failed promises are again knocking on our front doors. The peddlers are the same bunch that failed us for more than two decades. And they come with Judas-like phony smiles.

If some of these guys are chewing Dr. Webster how come they don't even understand the word "failure?" Magoo said he isn't offended by the rejuvenated courage to peddle failure. Or is it election year pitch gift wrapped in ignorance and stupidity?

I tried making sense of it only to see a trail of disconnect in their blind empty faces and suspect courage. I'd employ sanctimonious diplomacy to listen to their discordant voices. Should be fun ribbing their sensitivities!

The village folks look despondent—low spirit from loss of hope—echoing, "where I will go, the wind only knows…" At least we share the vast color of the ocean—blue—in soulful island blues. Eh, even the Lulu` Boys are into their own version of island blues too; victims of their own distance and detachment!

### Story: Seven blind men

There were seven blind men who had never seen anything because each is completely blind. Their other senses though are working well, e.g., smell, hearing, taste, and speech.

Each has a different dreamy understanding how an elephant looks. And each story is very different from the other. Yet, it is a description of an elephant they've never seen.

One day the guardian brought the seven men to the zoo and had each touch a real live elephant in the cage. Back home, each described what the beast looks like. Again, each description is completely different from the other. Nobody came close to describing what the animal looks like.

The zoo trip reminds me of 31 men and women from imperial Capital Hill who took an excursion to the zoo at the foot of the hill. Though they have their sense of sight each came out describing the lion differently and far removed from what the beast is about. Eh, even with their sights they still describe the lion like it's an alien from planet Mars. Why the discrepancy?

It's about mature perception of issues they've faced over the last year and-a-half that turned into habitual neglect. Everybody's talking, yelling, laughing, braving serious answers about the economy they've avoided as though a filthy leper.

You eyeball the intellectual acuity and it's obvious there's nothing up that alley. No wonder they can't figure out what they saw at the zoo. Perhaps we could we start them out on a Dog and Pony Show that it's a giant four-legged mammal! See if they could figure out the rest.

### Corporate social responsibility

It is rumored that BSI has assigned its so-called "corporate social responsibility" troops to get on the Internet, specifically, social media, (on days off) to defend the interest of the firm this midterm election.

I'm not sure what's there to be concerned about. If the assignment is undertaken on a constructive basis it should be clear in the eyes of the reading public. If however it is used to disparage candidates with differing views then it's an anti-free speech so designed to intimidate people.

There should be caution though in the use of social media. There's what's known as the "Cloud" in the region that records everything that is posted for public consumption. It is linked to your name and easily dredged to review your ideological or philosophical views principle-based they may be. In brief, it could haunt you later.

Like they say, there's more than one-way to skin a cat. Use caution and don't fall into the trap of splurging wildly behind an alias. Step forward and be counted using a real name. I respect those who choose credibility and respect over hiding

*See DOSAGE on Page 12*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Learning disabilities

My daughter has a learning disability. As defined by Google, a learning disability is a condition giving rise to difficulties in acquiring knowledge and skills to the level expected of those of the same age, especially when not associated with a physical limitation.

During her first 3 years of school, learning the basics (i.e., Math and Reading) was a struggle. It was not only hard on her, but hard on me as a parent as well. I wasn't sure of what to do, what to expect, or how to handle each situation.

This summer, I started my internship with the Northern Marianas Protection Advocacy Inc. I got to work with a former teacher of mine, who is now my co-worker Mr. Greg Borja. Through his assistance, I learned about the Special Education program, a Child Study Team, and my daughter was able to get the necessary assistance to develop the skills she needed help on in school, through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Last year she was a student at GTC Elementary, and she is looking forward to another school year this time at San Vicente Elementary School when summer is over. Thank you Mr. Greg for educating me more on the services my daughter could avail of in school and thank you to NMPASI for everything that you have done in making sure my daughter gets the appropriate education services she is eligible for.

For more information about learning disabilities or the IEP process, please contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4 or visit us online at www.nmpasi.org.

**Nicole Deleon Guerrero**
*NMPASI intern*

# CNMI losing revenue from tourists due to carding

Normally I would not raise an issue but because I received so many feedback from business establishments and most recently, a call from an employee of Joeten Garapan Super Market (Mr. George Moses) recently, I will make this one exception.

Currently, as it was in the past, a government agency continues to enforce a ridiculous policy of mandating establishments for identification cards even if the purchaser of tobacco or alcohol have been asked earlier and was recognized by the cashier to be of age and eligible to buy. Forget the fact that the person can be identified to be old and over the legal age, cashiers are still obligated to require ID cards or passport in order to be allowed to buy tobacco or alcohol. At the threat of losing their license to sell, establishments continue to ask consumers with an embarrassing apology.

If in fact this stupid policy is a law, all the stores on the islands in the Commonwealth are losing revenues from the tourists. Majority of the tourists from Japan, China, and other developed countries visiting our islands rely heavily on mass transportation and they do not carry a driver's license. There are exceptions for those who are privilege to have their own mode of transportation. So travelers to our islands carry their passports for immigration entry into our jurisdiction. Like us from the CNMI when we travel to foreign countries or outside the CNMI, we don't bring our passports when we leave the hotel for fear that we may lose it.

Most recent, Mr. Moses indicated that the enforcing government agency notified the company that a Xerox copy of passports is not an acceptable form of identification. This results in turning away tourist customers which essentially subjects to the business to loss of sales and a loss of revenue for our government.

As I mentioned earlier, if this policy is in fact a law, I beseech the members of the Legislature to act on repealing this nonsense law or amend it to clarify the intent of the law. I think we have too much regulations governing the businesses that it places a strangle hold on the ability for businesses to succeed.

I am informed that Rep. Glenn Maratita introduced a bill to address the issues I've raised and the bill now sits in the Senate. I urgently request the Senators to act on this bill to stop the harassments to our business community. A little, tiny badge is all that is needed to begin flexing muscles to show our businesses who is the boss. This has to come to a screeching halt. The government is not in the business of harassing those that pays taxes and their salaries. It shouldn't be!!

**Pete P. Reyes**
*Former CNMI senator*

# Gubernatorial succession process

Discussing on the gubernatorial succession relative to our constitution was in no way meant to embarrass anyone but instead call for adherence to our constitution, applicable laws, openness, free discussion by our constituents and friends and neighbors, as well as, transparency in our government. It is working. I meet people at the supermarkets, CCHC, CUC, restaurants, fast-food outlets, gas stations, courthouse, etc., and they ask me how's my concern about the special election, among other ideas.

I would respond that I haven't seen any overt action on any of them. I am concerned due to my previous legal experience with Andon Amaraich, Joe P.Mafnas, and Mike M. Sablan as a TTPI trial assistant, and now paralegal, as well as a former police officer, and my political science breadth studies. You see, the concept of a government by, for, and of the people, is all too often set aside when opportunities present themselves. If our system of separation of powers, checks and balances, and of accountability within our government breaks down, it is up to us, the constituents—the reasons for the existence of our government—who must rise up and speak our minds.

In 1945, we were introduced to the American democratic, elective form of government, based on the American Constitution and all its political history, theories, philosophies, etc., by the military administration. It was patterned after the American form of government and we've been following that governmental format since then. And if there is a diversion from the adopted format, we would question that diversion. Just recently, then, our acting governor and acting lieutenant governor have diverted their demeanors and have sidetracked our constitution, the supreme law of our CNMI, the very law which acting governor Torres and lieutenant governor Hocog are to enforce. Both officials prefer to take the advice of a handful of opinionated people, who chose to usurp the rights of the people to vote and, thus, subverted the provisions of the constitution by going out of bounds and substituting the provision without the consent of the governed, so that Torres and Hocog could be governor and lieutenant governor instead of allowing the constitution, via the special election process, to lift the "acting" titles and make Torres and Hocog real, elected officials.

Right now, both are not elected to their offices. Hocog was elected Rota senator with 400 votes, and has not yet resigned from the Senate, and Torres rode Inos' political bandwagon and took a second oath-of-office, unnecessarily. But even if Torres and Hocog have no election opponents, and they don't, they still must adhere to the mandates of the Constitutional provisions established for this instance. So far, only silence on the special election issue, and those who brave this silence only hints at a lack of concern and concession, and perhaps even pathetic indifference or even a blank mind on this succession issue.

Again, because the succession process was defined in our constitution, we're dealing with a constitutional law that carries a certain degree of formality. Issues and challenges must be dealt with in a way that provides for clear interpretation and adherence, a formal process that proves to us all and beyond the shadow of a doubt, that all successions into these two offices are legal. And we would give both due respect. Circumvention of this process brings out too many questions centered on legitimacy and illegitimacy, and we question that illegitimacy. When, then, is legitimacy going to happen?

Oh well, if the silence from those people involved in that meeting to promote our governor is a sign, then I suppose we have no choice but to step back and see what happens. The questions may eventually fade but the actions taken will go down in the history of the Northern Marianas as maybe, just maybe, another move similar to what Fitial did when he ignored the constitution and installed Inos to be the lieutenant governor, to replace outgoing lieutenant governor Timmy P. Villagomez. Fitial is no neophyte to political fisticuff. He'd been in the thickest of riots and rowdy campaignings since his Mt. Carmel days and beyond UOG.

By the way, the legislators had a choice. They had a voice but instead chose silence and did nothing. Hard to accept but understandable. And given the multitude of problems coming our way in a few short years, they will no doubt have their challenges as well. So, when all is said and done, it is not up to us but for the future to judge these events. To all, good luck, you certainly will need it.

**Rudy M. Sablan**
*Garapan*

## HILLARY

*From Page 12*

ously intended to damage the reputation of Hillary Clinton during her presidential campaign.

After the emails were released Tuesday, a spokesperson for Chagoury said he was "simply passing along his observations" on the chaotic politics of Lebanon but nothing came of the request. The Clinton campaign described the emails with similarly innocuous phrasing to the Chagoury statement: Chagoury "was simply seeking to share his insights on the upcoming Lebanese election with the right person at the Department of State for whom this information might be helpful." Feltman told The New York Times he never met with Chagoury or spoke to him.

When Hillary Clinton became secretary of state, the issue of conflicts of interest focused, laserlike, on the question of fat donations to the foundation, not on relationships that might continue going forward. So there appear to have been no laws violated here, and no ethical agreement violated either, because the secretary of state was not directly involved.

But the spirit of the separation protocols had been breached. We don't know whether, at some point, someone at State made the right decision to spike the Chagoury request. What we have is a foundation official urgently pushing for access on behalf of a donor, and a top State aide who should find a polite way to say "buzz off" instead offering to help.

By definition, matters of perception and conflicts of interest aren't clear-cut. Perceptions don't drop from above with the force of a rainstorm, they float by like gray clouds on an otherwise sunny day. Avoiding them requires recognizing, and steering clear of, the gray area of potential outcomes, even perceptions only an adversary might see. That didn't happen here. One way to have avoided the perception of a conflict would have been for the Clintons to tell Band, Abedin and Mills to keep their distance from each other. Period.

Hillary Clinton may well be the next president of the United States. Much has been said about her poor reputation for trustworthiness. The belated revelation that her top aides were violating the spirit of the separation protocols to which she agreed only provokes more doubt.

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## DOSAGE

*From Page 12*

behind their own shadows.

**Speakie Chamolu Lai!**

It's a struggle following the discussion between legislators and witnesses on most every issue under discussion showed on Channel 23 on television.

The questions asked lacked purpose, organization, and substance. It is further confused with the lack of grammatical integrity, syntactical structure and diction. I mean, if your goal is communication why would you even confuse yourself with big words, usage being comical at best, incoherent at worse. Embarrassing!

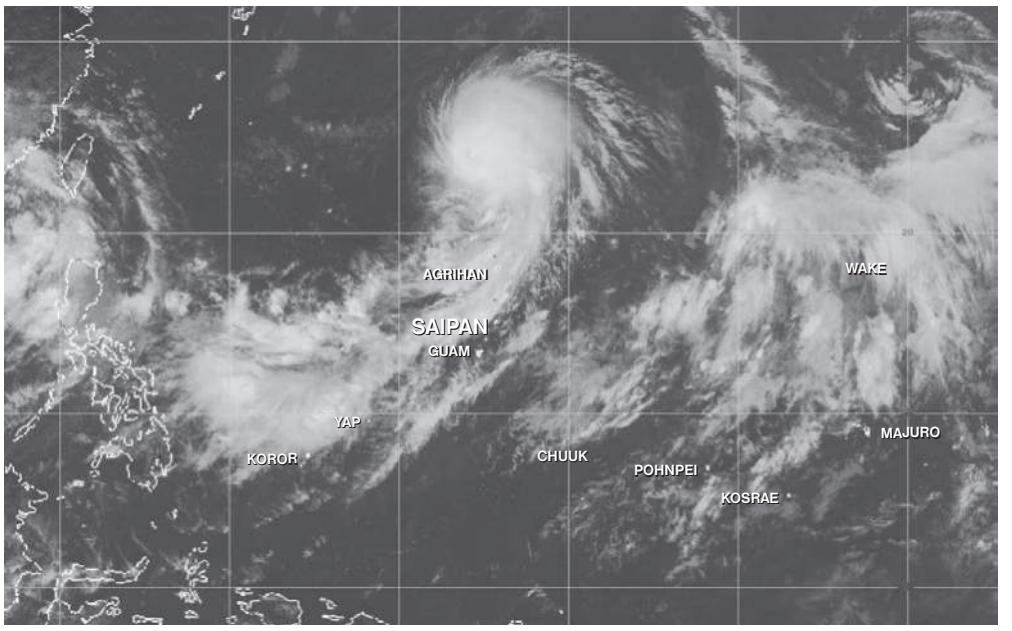
You wonder if the guys are learning Special Oral English or something or other. So you could imagine their groping for words in an attempt to articulate their views landing squarely in failure land. Communication is a two way street. The people around you or at home aren't professors, doctors or technical specialists but ordinary people. Try *da kine* Chamorro braddah! Even we bite our tongue speaking our very own! *Hombre, na setbi i fafayi-mu*!

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. |
| ▲85° ▼75° | ▲85° ▼75° | ▲88° ▼79° | ▲88° ▼79° | ▲88° ▼79° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 3:28 PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2016**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Latest models are similar to previous for the next 3-4 days or so, and as a result have made only minor changes to the grids–mainly to winds for Thu-Fri. The appearance of the monsoon band is not particularly impressive on satellite, and see no reason yet to look for much beyond scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms through at least Monday. The new GFS doesn't show any really heavy rain until the middle of the week, as the meat of the monsoon band hangs stubbornly north of Saipan. Since the model details of the rain band's evolution and movement change from run to run, there is still no reliable basis upon which to predict just when and where any heavy rain will occur beyond the next day or two. In any case, it is a good bet that monsoon winds will continue to gust over 25 mph most of this week.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▼ ▲ |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Mostly cloudy | 81 / 89 °F |
| Palau | Mostly cloudy | 80 / 87 °F |
| Yap | Strong thunderstorms | 78 / 84 °F |
| Chuuk | Mostly cloudy | 78 / 88 °F |
| Pohnpei | Cloudy | 76 / 89 °F |
| Kosrae | Morning clouds | 80 / 87 °F |
| Majuro | Mostly cloudy | 82 / 86 °F |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▼ ▲ |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Partly cloudy | 42 / 54 °F |
| Beijing | Morning clouds | 69 / 81 °F |
| Hong Kong | Mostly cloudy | 79 / 89 °F |
| Honolulu | Cloudy | 74 / 83 °F |
| London | Sunny | 57 / 74 °F |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | 69 / 92 °F |
| Manila | Tons of rain | 79 / 82 °F |
| Melbourne | Early fog | 48 / 62 °F |
| Miami | Cloudy | 83 / 89 °F |
| New York | Mostly sunny | 79 / 92 °F |
| Osaka | Partly sunny | 77 / 93 °F |
| Paris | Sunny | 62 / 83 °F |
| Pusan | Partly sunny | 81 / 93 °F |
| Rome | Mostly sunny | 60 / 88 °F |
| Salem | Mostly sunny | 58 / 87 °F |
| San Francisco | Morning clouds | 56 / 69 °F |
| Seoul | Early fog | 74 / 91 °F |
| Tokyo | Partly sunny | 74 / 85 °F |
| Washington, DC | Partly sunny | 76 / 93 °F |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4:15 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.75 Feet |
| 11:39 AM | LOW TIDE | -0.04 Feet |
| 6:36 PM | HIGH TIDE | 1.7 Feet |
| 11:56 PM | LOW TIDE | 1.09 Feet |

| SUNRISE / SUNSET | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:02 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:03 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:03 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Thursday | 6:03 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Friday | 6:03 AM | 6:38 PM |

| MOONRISE / MOONSET | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 3:59 PM | 2:50 AM |
| Tuesday | 4:50 PM | 3:42 AM |
| Wednesday | 5:41 PM | 4:37 AM |
| Thursday | 6:30 PM | 5:34 AM |
| Friday | 7:18 PM | 6:31 AM |

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2924 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA2922 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA2920 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA2928 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA2926 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:20pm | 7:00pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:45am | 8:30am | Daily |
| LJ652 | 2:10pm | 6:05pm | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:00pm | 7:45pm | Daily |
| OZ6063 | 5:15pm | 8:35pm | 4, 7 |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2924/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2924/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:15am | Daily via GUM |
| PR1572 | 4:35am | 6:45am | 1, 4 |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 8:50pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 9:10pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2921/193 | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR |
| UA2920/183 | 2:20pm | 8:50pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA2920/183 | 2:20pm | 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA2920/193 | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 2 via GUM-ROR |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HX077 | 2:00am | 5:00am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2921/159 | 1:30pm | 9:55pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/159 | 2:20pm | 9:55pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2923 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA2925 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA2927 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA2929 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

**GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:30am | 3:05pm | Daily |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LJ651 | 7:30am | 1:10pm | Daily |
| 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| OZ6053 | 10:35am | 4:05pm | 4, 7 |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:40pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/2927 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR1571 | 9:20pm | 3:35am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UA192/2925 | 9:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| PR110/UA2925 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 11:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:30pm | 12:30am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UA116/2925 | 9:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

**TINIAN TO SAIPAN**

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

**SAIPAN TO TINIAN**

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

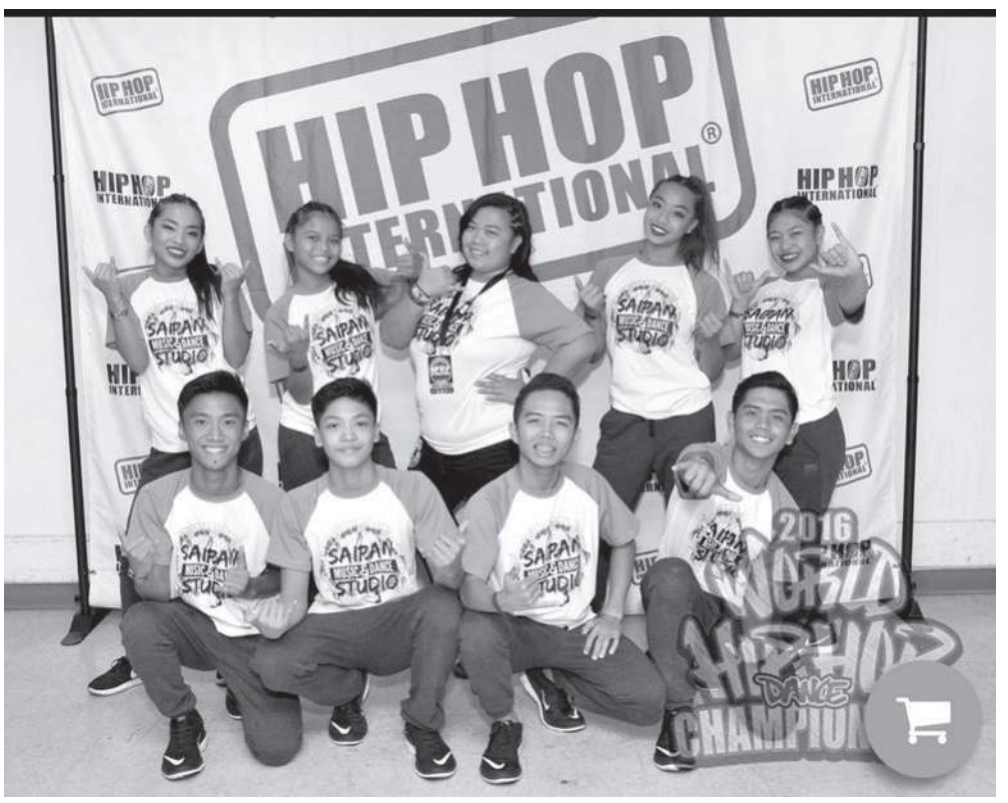
**SAIPAN TO ROTA**

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

**ROTA TO SAIPAN**

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

# SMADS concludes stint in hip hop tilt




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Music and Dance Studio dancers last week competed in Hip Hop International held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Saipan Music and Dance Studio dancers completed their stint in Hip Hop International after performing in the first round of competition from Aug. 9 to 10 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"There were over 70 plus crews in their varsity division that competed and only the top 40 crews advance into the semifinals. We were hopeful to be called on, of course but so were the other 500 plus dancers. We weren't as surprised knowing we didn't make it to the second round. Competition out there is really tough! We were against the best crews in the world," said SMADS head choreographer Kevin John Razon.

"Although we felt like we had a slight edge over some of the crews especially after watching the rest of the competition, we were lucky enough to be the very first dance troupe on stage as we opened the division. The kids were very happy of the outcome and felt a lot more confident after. We weren't expecting anything special. Everyone's mindset going into the competition was just to give it our best!" he added.

When asked what he thought the best moment the kids had during the competition, Razon said, "I think the best moment for the kids was prior to getting on stage as the first performers. As they proceeded to the backstage area, all the other countries and dancers were so welcoming. Numerous strangers and event coordinators and workers wished them good luck. The kids told me, 'Even if it was the first time to enter Hip Hop International, everyone made us feel like we belong. Like, we've always been here with them.'"

Asked if SMADS dancers will try again next year, Razon answered in the affirmative.

"Yes, we will definitely be working hard to get back! It was our first international competition… We would definitely not miss a chance to participate again."

Razon hopes that SMADS dancers would get more support from the community in time for next year's competition.

"We're looking toward more support from the community and everyone around us in 2017. We're hoping for more supporters that would also participate in the event. Now that we understand the feeling of the competition, next time we'll be more prepared than ever. We'll be bigger, better, and stronger. We are not disheartened by this loss. We've only just begun!" he said.

The SMADS dancers who competed in Las Vegas are Carl Marquez, 17; John Cavinta, 16; Lance Elayda, 16; Catherine Castro, 16; Carl Lambat, 15; Jenalyn Tinio, 15; Mary Sablan, 15; and Donna Galvez, 15. The dancers are accompanied by Angelica Chong-Valencia, assistant head choreographer/team leader; Prajan Panthi-Sunar, choreographer; and Ester Sablan, SMADS owner. ***(Joan Taitano)***

# NMC to hold more placement tests and orientation sessions

Northern Marianas College announced that it will conduct additional English and Math placement tests and student orientation sessions for students that will need to complete prior to registering for Fall 2016 classes. The additional dates are as follows:

**Placement Tests:**

- Aug. 15th (Monday) @ 9am
- Aug. 16th (Tuesday) @ 1pm
- Aug. 17th (Wednesday) @ 9am
- Aug. 18th (Thursday) @ 1pm

**Video Orientation (1.5 hrs):**

- Aug. 15th (Monday) @ 1pm & 3pm
- Aug. 16th (Tuesday) @ 9am & 11am

Each test/orientation date/time can only accommodate 11 students. Students are advised to contact the Testing Center at 237-6774 or send an email to gemma.somol@my.marianas.eduto reserve a space at one of these events. Placement Testing & Video Orientations will take place at the Testing Center in Bldg. I.

For any other information about registering for NMC's Fall 2016 semester, visit the NMC website at marianas.edu, or call 237-6768 or 237-6771 or email oar@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**REVISED**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**CUC-RFP-16-016**

**TYPHOON SOUDELOR PERMANENT RESTORATION PROJECT**
**CUC POWER PLANTS 1, 2, AND 4**
**SAIPAN, CNMI**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced construction firms for the Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project for CUC Power Plant Nos. 1 and 2, located at Lower Base and No. 4, located at Puerto Rico, Saipan, CNMI.

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature, and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the work within the specified time frame.

A **mandatory pre-proposal conference** will be conducted at the CUC Power Plant Administration Building in Lower Base, Saipan on **August 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., ChST.** Immediately after the conference, Site Visits to Power Plant facilities will be arranged. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID.

**One (1) original and Five (6) hard copies and 1 Compact Disc (CD) of the entire submission in PDF format** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC RFP-16-016 Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project, CUC Power Plants 1, 2, and 4*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 31, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

The awarded Proposer will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – https://marianaslabor.net/.

*A Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 19, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**
**CUC-IFB-16-020**

**ROTA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Rota Water Supply Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the demolition of existing bldg. structure, fence, pipes, valves, including appurtenances, installation of new 6-inch, 8-inch, & 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, construction of new three wells bldg., chlorination building, booster pump building, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

***One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies*** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-020, Rota Water Supply Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 29, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Chief Engineer-Water/Wastewater-john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant– marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

# ‘Bike the Faith’ celebrates Fr. Ryan’s ordination

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY ERWIN ENCINARES

Protestant churches joined the Catholic faithfull in celebrating Bishop-elect Fr. Ryan Jimenez’s installation and ordination yesterday with a cycling event, dubbed “Bike the Faith,” last Saturday, Aug. 13.

Organized by Russ and Kanae Quinn, the event was suggested by Father Ryan himself.

“This was Father Ryan’s idea. He wanted us to have an event that promotes health in the community,” said Kanae. “This is what he shared to us when he announced that he’ll be the bishop-elect about six weeks ago.”

According to Kanae, Bike the Faith was open to everybody. “It’s not just for the Christian community it’s for everybody who wants to participate. So it’s for everyone and we want people to just share the journey.”

Father Ryan, a bike enthusiast, also seemed to enjoy a bike ride around the island. “Father Ryan, he loves to bike. He loves to be able to do fun things with his parishioners. And this is what he wanted us to do with him,” said Kanae.

People of various faiths attended the bike event. The peloton pushed up Navy Hill all the way up to Grace Christian Academy. GCA’s Rev. Raymond Kinsella then proceeded to lead a prayer. After, the peloton went on to pass Kristo Rai Church all the way to Gualo Rai’s Life in the Son Church. The peloton was then blessed by a prayer by pastor Eric Abragan. After a short rest and some water, the peloton went on to proceed to the Saipan Community Church. The peloton was then blessed by Saipan Community Church associate pastor Roger Abe.

The last stop was at the Mount Carmel Cathedral, where refreshments and sandwiches were served to the attendees of the event. Father Ryan himself led the prayer at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Most of the partucipants of “Bike the Faith” pose for a group photo with Bishop-elect Fr. Ryan Jimez at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Bikers enjoy the flat road before going up Navy Hill.

Supporters of Fr. Ryan at the foot of Navy Hill.

Members of the CNMI Marriage Encounter with Bishop-elect Fr. Ryan Jimenez and Archbishop Peter Choylong.

Some of the bikers at the Saipan Community Church

Saipan Community Church associate pastor Roger Abe blesses Bishop-elect Fr. Ryan Jimenez through a powerful prayer.

# Business

## What Trump and Clinton didn't say in their economic speeches

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton spelled out their economic visions in high-profile speeches in Michigan this week. They delved into taxes and regulations, trade deals and job growth.

Yet perhaps most notable about their speeches is what they left out.

Mostly unmentioned were major challenges that have slowed the U.S. economy and made good-paying jobs harder to find, particularly in struggling pockets of the country. They are challenges that tend to preoccupy economists and defy simple fixes:

A less efficient workforce. A dwindling proportion of adults either working or looking for work. Automation and increasingly high-skilled jobs that require technological know-how that many people lack.

They are problems that analysts say require a transformative vision. Yet neither candidate voiced anything like the high-reaching themes that were hallmarks of previous campaigns—from Bill Clinton's "Bridge to the 21stcentury," which urged Americans to face a more globalized economy, or George W. Bush's "No Child Left Behind," which sought to overhaul public education to better serve more children.

Each promised a bright future but also spotlighted the country's challenges.

"It's much easier to be either optimistic about the future or harp on problems that voters already recognize," said Daron Acemoglu, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who has studied the impact of automation on the workforce.

When Trump spoke Monday and Clinton followed on Thursday, each pledged more spending for rebuilding roads, bridges, tunnels and other infrastructure, which many economists say is long overdue. Such work, beyond creating more construction jobs, could ultimately lower transportation costs, raise workers' productivity and accelerate economic growth.

But economists worry that the United States faces long-run challenges beyond dilapidated airports and tunnels. An economy's ability to expand is shaped largely by two trends: The size of its workforce and how much its workers produce for each hour on the job.

In both areas, the United States is weakening. In the past decade, the workforce has grown an average of just 0.5 percent a year—barely half its post-World War II pace.

## Hostess launches 'Deep Fried Twinkies' as first frozen treat

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The deep-fried Twinkie is jumping from the state fair to the home freezer.

Hostess Brands, the maker of lunchbox treats like Ho Hos, is launching packaged "Deep Fried Twinkies" starting Friday that mark its first foray into frozen foods. The cream-filled snack in vanilla or chocolate is the result of a yearlong collaboration between Hostess and Wal-Mart, as both companies look to spark food sales with innovative products.

Battered and partially fried before being frozen, the Twinkies need to be finished for a short time in the oven, toaster oven or frying pan. They'll cost $4.76 for a box of seven and for the first three months are available only at Wal-Mart.

It has a "retro cool factor," says Ellen Copaken, Hostess' vice president of marketing. "It plays into the comfort food trend. And it's fun."

The Twinkie, long one of Hostess' largest sellers, is a bigger business now than even right before the company filed for bankruptcy in 2012, Copaken said. Executives had considered developing a deep-fried version, like those seen at local fairs, but put the plans on hold until Wal-Mart approached them last summer.

For Wal-Mart, which gets more than half of its sales from food and other groceries, the partnership is part of a strategy of working closely with suppliers to come up with new twists on existing foods or developing new ones, and getting them to the shelves faster. The company opened a food lab in June for that teamwork, a process that can cut costs and shave several months off a product launch, says Charles Redfield, executive vice president of food at Wal-Mart.

The food lab at the company's Bentonville, Arkansas, headquarters has 10 test kitchens and space to accommodate 12 individual taste tests at a time. Specific feedback from customers gathered there gets shared with suppliers to determine if an item needs more work. Being tested now: new flavors for its store brand sparkling water, frozen stuffed doughnut bites, and vacuum-packed Paleo meals.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### UK promises to maintain EU funding for farming, science

**LONDON** (AP)—The British government promised Saturday to keep paying for European Union-funded agriculture, infrastructure and science projects until 2020, even if Britain leaves the bloc before then. Treasury chief Philip Hammond wants to allay worry among farmers and scientists about what will replace the millions they currently get from the EU. Some scientists in Britain say the uncertainty is already hitting their ability to begin multi-year research projects. Hammond said organizations "want reassurance about the flow of funding they will receive," and the announcement would help provide "stability and certainty." He said the funding guarantee would cost taxpayers about 4.5 billion pounds ($5.8 billion) a year.

### 2 Fox News execs named co-presidents, will report to Murdoch

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Fox News Channel founder Rupert Murdoch on Friday appointed two longtime Fox executives as the new co-presidents of the news network as it restructures after last month's departure of Roger Ailes following sexual harassment allegations. Both Jack Abernethy and Bill Shine were with Fox News when it started in 1996. Shine, who had been one of Ailes' top deputies, will run the editorial operations for Fox News and its sister Fox Business Network. Abernethy had left the news channel to run Fox's stable of 28 local stations and he'll keep that job, while overseeing the business operations of the two networks. Both will report to Murdoch, who will continue to oversee things as executive chairman. The moves sent a signal to Fox News viewers that despite a scandal that has widened since Ailes' resignation, they shouldn't worry that their favorite network is abandoning them.


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**CUC-RFP-16-018**

**FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than September 15, 2016. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016"to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on September 9, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2016** to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Joann Paraiso, CUC Acting Chief Financial Officer, via email address joanne.paraiso@cucgov.org and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**
**CUC-IFB-16-022**

**LIFT STATION RENOVATION PROJECT**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Lift Station Renovation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the renovation and upgrade of the S-6, S-10, SR-1, and A-7 Sewer Lift Stations.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of wet wells, valve vaults, a bar screen and flow monitor vault, removal of existing pumps, pipes, fittings and appurtenances, installation of new pumps, guide rails, control panels, pipes and fittings, installation of a new fence and gate, the installation and operation of a temporary wastewater bypass system, and other related work.

*The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.*

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**ONE (1) original and FIVE (5) hard copies of the bid MUST** be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-022, Lift Station Renovation"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.
Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2016** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, W/WW Chief Engineer via email address-john.riegel@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez , W/WW Junior Engineer via email address-nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Birhen Martinez, W/WW Senior Engineer via email address-birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

# Nation

## GOP could be near Trump breaking point

**ALTOONA, Pa.** (AP)—The Republican Party could be nearing a breaking point with Donald Trump.

As he skips from one gaffe to the next, GOP leaders in Washington and in the most competitive states have begun openly contemplating turning their backs on their party's presidential nominee to prevent what they fear will be wide-scale Republican losses on Election Day.

Back in 1996, the party largely gave up on nominee Bob Dole once it became clear he had little chance of winning, so it's not without precedent. Nevertheless, it's a jolting prospect now, with roughly three months still left before the Nov. 8 vote and weeks before the three presidential debates.

Republicans who have devoted their professional lives to electing GOP candidates say they believe the White House already may be lost. They're exasperated by Trump's divisive politics and his insistence on running a general election campaign that mirrors his approach to the primaries.

"Based on his campaign record, there's no chance he's going to win," said Sara Fagen, the political director for former President George W. Bush. "He's losing groups of people he can't get back."

Trump's campaign says things are moving in the right direction, a position that itself feeds the discontent among his GOP detractors. The billionaire businessman's loyalists say enough time remains to change the dynamic against Democrat Hillary Clinton who, like Trump, is deeply unpopular with voters.

And his backers are blaming the media for the perception that all is not well.

"Frankly, a lot of stuff over the last week ... it's him being distorted," said Trump's campaign chairman, Paul Manafort. "For the last week or so, he's been very focused and very much on his game."

Trump did show some modest improvement as a candidate in the past week. He has stopped criticizing a Muslim family of a fallen U.S. soldier. Gone are the fights with some of his party's most respected members of Congress.

But also in the past seven days, Trump has questioned the advice of senior aides, threatened to stop raising money for the party, dismissed the usefulness of get-out-the-vote efforts and defended his decision not to run any television ads even as his opponents fill the airwaves with spots backing Clinton in several contested states.

It all largely overshadowed the content of 44 previously-unreleased email exchanges Clinton had while at the State Department. They became public on Tuesday and showed her interacting with lobbyists, political and Clinton Foundation donors and business interests while serving as secretary of state.

"He can't simply continue to preach to the choir and think he's going to put together a coalition that will win the White House," said Ryan Williams, a party strategist and former aide to 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney. "He's essentially guaranteeing that he will lose by refusing to clean up his mistakes and stop committing future ones."

The mistakes do keep coming.

Trump this past week stuck by a patently false claim that President Barack Obama founded the Islamic State group. The candidate made an off-handed remark about Clinton that was widely condemned by critics as an invitation to violence. He even acknowledged that losing might not be so bad.

"I'll just keep doing the same thing I'm doing right now," he told CNBC on Thursday. "And at the end it's either going to work or I'm going to you know, I'm going to have a very, very nice, long vacation."

All of it, to some Republicans, should lead the party to give up on its nominee.

More than 100 GOP officials, including at least six former members of Congress and more than 20 former staffers at the Republican National Committee, have signed a letter asking the party chairman, Reince Priebus, to stop helping Trump's campaign.

They call the New York real estate mogul a threat to the party and to the nation. They want the RNC to take resources now helping Trump and shift them to vulnerable GOP candidates for House and Senate.

The letter follows a steady stream of recent defections from Republican elected officials and longtime strategists who vow never to support Trump. They want party leaders to acknowledge that backing his White House bid is a waste of time and money.

"They're going to do it sooner or later. They might as well do it sooner to have more impact," said former Minnesota Rep. Vin Weber, one of the Republicans to sign the letter to Priebus.

Senior Republicans in Washington and in some of the most contested states have discussed a scenario in which the party scales back its presidential focus in states that don't feature top races for Senate. They could abandon a state such as Virginia, for example, and focus more on a state such as Indiana, where Democrat Evan Bayh is trying to make a Senate comeback.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Police search for suspect in killing of imam, friend

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Police in New York City are searching for the man who fatally shot the leader of a mosque and a friend as they left afternoon prayers, setting off fear and anguish among the community's Bangladeshi Muslim immigrants. Although police said no motive had been established for the killing of Imam Maulama Akonjee, 55, and 64-year-old Thara Uddin Saturday afternoon near the Al-Furqan Jame Masjid mosque, community members worried the slayings could be rooted in intolerance. "There's nothing in the preliminary investigation to indicate that they were targeted because of their faith," said Deputy Inspector Henry Sautner of the New York Police Department.

#### Milwaukee police in standoff with crowd after fatal shooting

**MILWAUKEE** (AP)—A crowd of protesters skirmished with police Saturday night in a Milwaukee neighborhood where an officer shot and killed a man after a traffic stop and foot chase earlier in the day, setting fire to a police car and torching a gas station. One officer was hurt by a thrown brick. Police said the 23-year-old man was armed with a handgun, but Assistant Chief Bill Jessup told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that it wasn't immediately clear whether the man had pointed a gun or fired at the officer. They described the man as a suspect, but didn't say what led to the traffic stop. The races of the man and the officer weren't immediately released.

# Asia

## Thai police hoping to quickly identify bombing suspects

**BANGKOK** (AP)—Police in Thailand said Saturday that they were hoping to identify suspects over the next couple of days in a series of bombing and arson attacks that struck several tourist towns, killing four people and wounding dozens, including 11 foreigners.

AP

Investigators work at the scene of an explosion in the resort town of Hua Hin, 240 kilometers (150 miles) south of Bangkok, Thailand, Friday, Aug. 12, 2016

The attacks, which hit Thursday and Friday, came days after a referendum was held in which Thais approved a new constitution that critics say will bolster the power of the military, which has ruled the country since a May 2014 coup, for years to come. Thai authorities have suggested there were political motives behind the violence, but named no specific suspects. No one has claimed responsibility for any of the 11 bombings.

"We hope we may have some suspects today or tomorrow," Police Gen. Pongsapat Pongcharoen, a deputy national police chief, told reporters Saturday. He did not elaborate, but said that police were gathering evidence and that international militant groups were not believed to be behind the attacks.

The violence appeared aimed at dealing a blow to Thailand's tourism industry, which brings in crucial income to the government.

One small bomb exploded on a beach in the popular Patong area of Phuket island, and four others rattled the seaside resort city of Hua Hin, prompting businesses to shut their doors, streets to empty and anxious tourists to huddle inside their hotels. The wounded foreigners included nationals of Austria, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. The four who were killed were Thais.

The fatalities came from bombs in Hua Hin, 200 kilometers (120 miles) south of Bangkok, and the cities of Surat Thani and Trang, farther south. All of the affected destinations—which also included Phang Nga and Krabi, as well as Phuket—are popular with foreign and Thai tourists.

## Philippine leader wants to talk with 2 rebel groups, China

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Friday he wanted his government to hold peace talks with the two largest Muslim rebel groups in the south at the same time and preferred to negotiate with rather than confront China on their territorial disputes.

Despite his peace overtures, Duterte assured government troops on southern Jolo Island, a hotbed of Muslim militancy, that they would be provided with more powerful weapons and better hospitals while the decades-long rebellions continue to rage.

"I would like to appeal to all that we stop this war. I am pleading so there will no longer be blood," Duterte said in a speech before combat troops in a military camp on Jolo in the predominantly Muslim province of Sulu.

Duterte was referring to the Moro National Liberation Front, which signed a peace pact with the Philippine government in 1996 but has held on to its firearms and continues to carry out sporadic attacks, accusing Manila of failing to deliver political and economic concessions under the accord.

Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, signed another Muslim autonomy deal with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in 2014 but a draft law that would have enforced the agreement was not passed by Congress before Aquino's term ended in June.

Duterte said he asked the government peace panel to hold talks with the two rebel groups at the same time to save on money. It has been challenging, however, to bring the two rebel groups together although both have embraced Muslim autonomy in exchange for ending decades of bloody rebellions.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Hundreds protest hero's burial for Philippine dictator

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Hundreds of Filipinos have rallied in stormy weather against President Rodrigo Duterte's approval of dictator Ferdinand Marcos' burial in a heroes' cemetery. A left-wing group is also planning to ask the Supreme Court to stop what it calls "grave injustice" to thousands of human rights victims. Police say about 1,500 protesters carrying a large streamer that read "Marcos not a hero" braved the rains and wind at Manila's seaside Rizal Park to call on Duterte to reconsider his decision. They will launch a signature campaign to try to stop the burial, tentatively set for next month. Sen. Risa Hontiveros, who joined the protest, says she has filed a Senate resolution opposing a hero's burial for Marcos, who was overthrown in 1986 and died in U.S. exile three years later.

#### Aides of Afghan government's chief could withdraw support

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—Key allies of Afghanistan's chief executive are threatening to withdraw their support for the government unless the country's president meets their camp's key demands. The threat by Abdullah Abdullah's associates is the latest in a political crisis stemming from a U.S.-brokered power-sharing deal between President Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah. The deal, negotiated by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, followed the fractious 2014 elections and resulted in a unity government of the two Afghan leaders. Amrullah Saleh, who leads the Green Trend party, said on Friday that Abdullah's allies are standing firm on their demands. He says they are seeking sweeping reforms and want Ghani to stop "micro-managing" the government and "consolidating personal power."

# World

## US-backed Syrian force captures key IS stronghold of Manbij

**BEIRUT** (AP)—On the streets of Manbij, men chanted slogans against the Islamic State group or clipped their beards and women walked with their faces uncovered for the first time in over two-and-a-half years, hours after the militant group was pushed out of the northern Syrian city.

U.S.-backed fighters seized the key Islamic State stronghold late Friday after two months of heavy fighting that killed more than 1000 people and displaced thousands. The fighters also freed hundreds of civilians the extremists had used as human shields, Syrian Kurdish officials and an opposition activist group said.

The capture of Manbij is the biggest defeat for the extremist group in Syria since July 2015, when they lost the town of Tal Abyad on the border with Turkey. The capture of Tal Abyad deprived the militant group of a direct route to bring in new foreign militants or supplies.

Manbij is important because it lies on a key supply route between the Turkish border and the city of Raqqa, the de facto capital of the IS group's self-styled caliphate.

Manbij had been under IS control since January 2014, when the extremists evicted other Syrian militant groups from the town.

The Islamic State group's loss of Manbij followed two months after they lost the Iraqi city of Fallujah.

Nasser Haj Mansour, of the predominantly Kurdish Syria Democratic Forces, told The Associated Press that the town of Manbij "is under full control," adding that operations are ongoing to search for any IS militants who might have stayed behind. The SDF launched its offensive in late May to capture Manbij, and was supported by U.S.-led airstrikes.

Amateur videos posted online showed that shortly after SDF fighters captured the town late Friday, scores of residents went down to celebrate in the streets. A man was filmed trimming his own beard with scissors, and then moving to clip the beard of another man on a motorbike. Women were able to uncover their faces.

IS imposes a harsh and extreme version of Islam on the territory under its control, including a mandatory dress code.

"May God destroy them. They slaughtered us," a young man shouted in a Manbij square. "May they not live for a minute."

The videos appeared genuine and corresponded to Associated Press reporting of events.

## Fidel Castro thanks Cuba, criticizes Obama, on 90th birthday

**HAVANA** (AP)—Fidel Castro thanked Cubans for their well-wishes on his 90th birthday and criticized President Barack Obama in a lengthy letter published in state media. He appeared but did not speak at a gala in his honor broadcast on state television.

"I want to express my deepest gratitude for the shows of respect, greetings and praise that I've received in recent days, which give me strength to reciprocate with ideas that I will send to party militants and relevant organizations," he wrote about his birthday on Saturday.

"Modern medical techniques have allowed me to scrutinize the universe," wrote Castro, who stepped down as Cuba's president 10 years ago after suffering a severe gastrointestinal illness.

Just after 6 p.m., he could be seen in footage on state television slowly approaching his seat at Havana's Karl Marx theater, clad in a white Puma tracksuit top and green shirt. He sat in what appeared to be a specially equipped wheelchair and watched a musical tribute by a children's theater company, accompanied by footage of highlights from his decades in power.

He sat alongside his younger brother, President Raul Castro, and President Nicolas Maduro of Venezuela, along with Cuba's highest-ranking military and civilian officials.

In his letter, Castro accompanied his thanks with reminiscences about his childhood and youth in eastern Cuba, describing the geology and plant life of the region where he grew up. He touched on his father's death shortly before his own victory in overthrowing U.S-backed strongman Fulgencio Batista in 1959.

Castro returns at the end to criticize Obama, who appeared to anger the revolutionary leader with a March trip to Cuba in which he called for Cubans to look toward the future. A week after the trip, Castro wrote a sternly worded letter admonishing Obama to read up on Cuban history, and declaring that "we don't need the empire to give us anything."

In Saturday's letter, he criticizes Obama for not apologizing to the Japanese people during a May trip to Hiroshima, describing Obama's speech there as "lacking stature."

## Tens of thousands march in Peru against gender violence

**LIMA, Peru** (AP)—More than 50,000 people marched in Peru's capital and eight other cities on Saturday to protest violence against woman and what they say is the indifference of the judicial system.

Officials said the size of the protest against gender violence was unprecedented in Peru and followed several recent high-profile cases in which male perpetrators were given what women's groups said were too-lenient sentences. The march in Lima ended at the palace of justice.

"Today, the 13th of August, is a historic day for this country because it represents a breaking point and the start of a new culture to eradicate the marginalization that women have been suffering, especially with violence," said Victor Ticona, president of Peru's judicial system.

Ticona said that a commission of judges would receive representatives of the protesters.

Newly inaugurated President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski took part in the march along with first lady Nancy Lange.

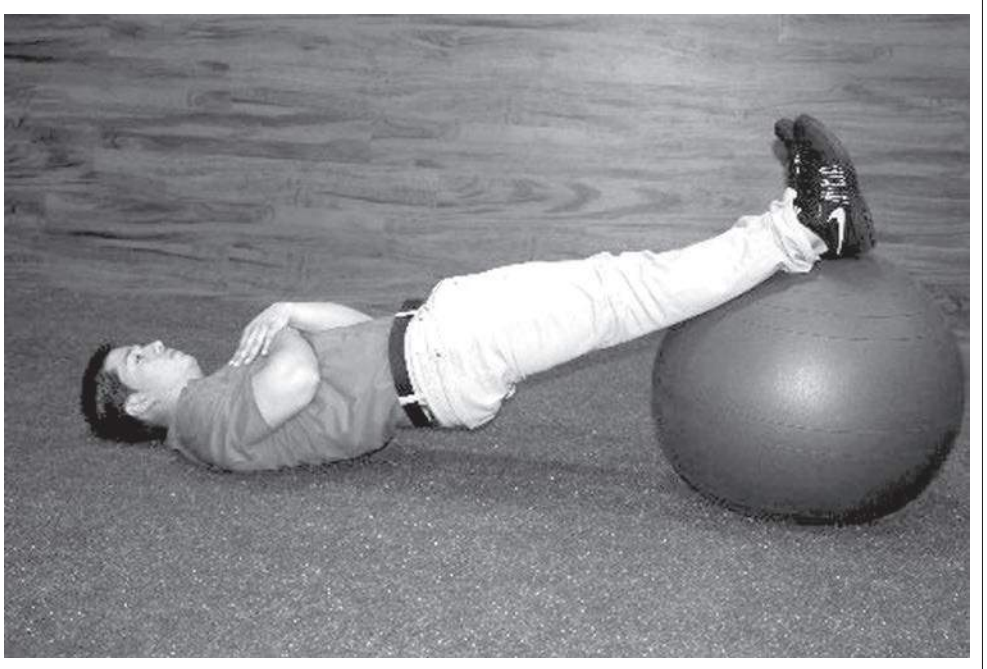
"What we don't want in Peru is violence against anyone, but especially against women and children," he said.

Earlier in the day, Kuczynski said his government is "going to ask for facilities for women to denounce violence because abuse flourishes in an environment where complaints cannot be made and the blows are absorbed in silence—and this is not how it should be."

Peru's march follows similar protests against gender violence in other Latin American countries, including Argentina and Brazil, held under the slogan #NiUnaMenos—#NotOneLess.

# Health & Fitness

## Exercise balls are affordable, efficient tools to keep you toned



TNS

A fitness instructor shows how to use a balance ball to work the spine, glutes and hamstrings.

By WINA STURGEON
ADVENTURE SPORTS WEEKLY

They come in different colors and sizes. They're both versatile and portable. They can be used to do lots of different exercises and work different muscles in ways that are different from machines and free weights. Best of all, this piece of fitness equipment can be bought for under $20.

A balance ball _ or exercise ball _ is something many people have, but seldom use. It's great for a quick, down-and-dirty workout, but it doesn't have that 'warrior' image that comes from lifting a piece of heavy metal. Yet it has the added bonus of being right there. Put it in front of the TV and get a quick workout while you watch your favorite show. Make it a habit. Learn how to increase or decrease resistance just by changing your position on the ball.

If you're an athlete who travels, a deflated ball doesn't add much bulk or weight to your baggage. Pumping it up gives a nice little workout to the glutes and thighs (remember to switch the pumping foot so each leg gets worked).

Here are just a few exercises you can do with a ball:

■ **Pushup:** Lay down with the ball under your belly button. Use your arms to 'walk' your body in front of the ball so it rests under your knees. Bend your arms until your head is lowered nearly to the floor. Straighten your arms and push your upper body back to its original position on the ball.

■ **Crunches:** Lay with your head and torso on the floor, thighs upright, and calves and feet on the ball while you cross your arms over your chest. Use the closeness of the ball to increase or decrease resistance. If the ball is close to your hamstrings, you'll have less resistance and it will be easier to lift your head and torso into a crunch. If the ball is six or more inches away from your thighs, resistance will increase. It will put more stress on your abs. Crunch at a sideways angle to work the obliques, those small but important muscles on the sides of your abs. To turn the crunch into a spot-on core workout, lift your body up at the hips and keep it straight, almost like a plank. Hold that position until your core muscles begin to burn too much to continue holding it.

■ **Shoulder/biceps exercise:** This one is not easy. Get sideways on the ball, positioned so that it's just below one hip. Reach down to the floor and support yourself with one arm. Now bend that arm so that it makes a movement similar to a biceps curl. Push yourself back up and repeat about 10 or 12 times. Get your other hip on the ball and do the same thing with the other arm. You may feel this the next day.

■ **Backward balance squat:** Put one leg behind you, with your metatarsal (top of foot) on the ball, bent at the knee. Hold your arms out in front. Squat with the free leg. This exercise seriously works on giving you better balance for any sport you do. Exercise to prevent hip, groin or hamstring pull. Lay flat on the floor in a relaxed position, with a ball between your feet. Grip the ball with your feet and lower legs, then lift it as high as you can. Repeat, but not to the point where anything hurts. You don't want to put too much resistance on the tendons anywhere in this area of the body. But lightly lifting a ball with your lower legs and feet will give you protection against painful tendon pulls in the groin area. So get that exercise ball out, or buy a new one, and learn how easy it is to get fit by staying on the ball.

*Wina Sturgeon is the editor of the online magazine* Adventure Sports Weekly, *which offers the latest training, diet and athletic information.*

# Life & Style

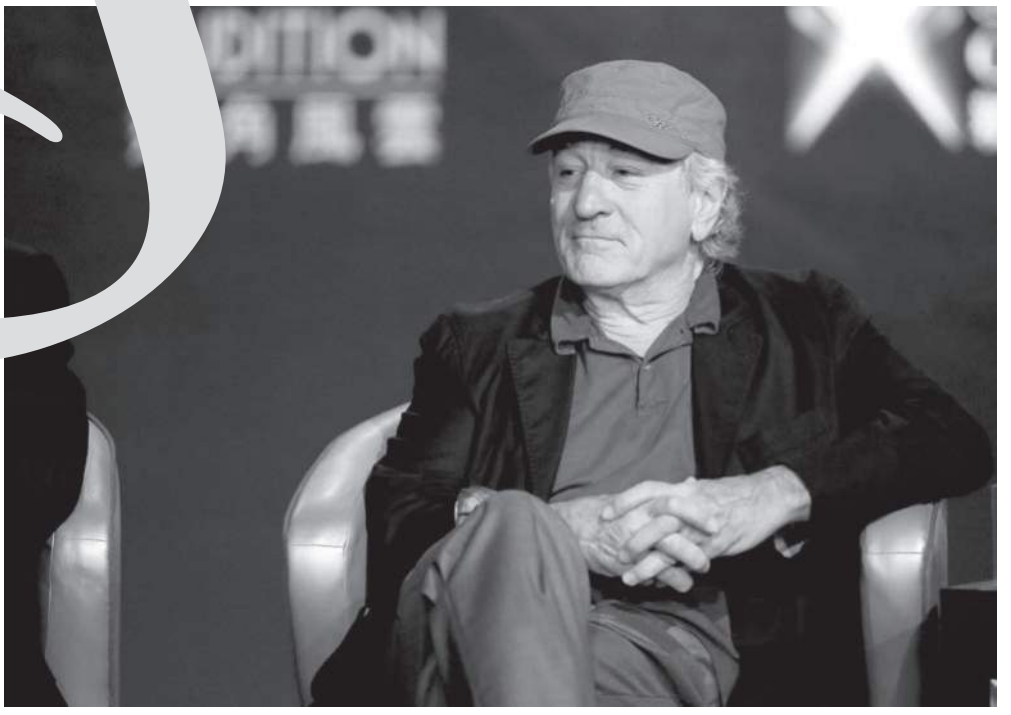
## Robert De Niro opens the 22nd Sarajevo Film Festival

**SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina** (AP)—Robert De Niro opened the 22nd Sarajevo Film Festival on Friday, presented Martin Scorsese's restored "Taxi Driver" and received the festival's first lifetime achievement award—The Heart of Sarajevo.

De Niro starred in the 1976 film in the role of Travis Bickle, a mentally disturbed Vietnam war veteran.

Over nine days, some 100,000 expected guests will watch 223 movies from 61 countries in nearly a dozen locations in the city. At the end, winners will be announced in seven categories.

"I will treasure this award—my Heart of Sarajevo—because I don't think there is another city in the world that has shown such heart in the face of so much tragedy," De Niro said at the ceremony.



In this Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015 file photo, actor Robert De Niro attends a news conference in Macau. The 22nd Sarajevo Film Festival is kicking off Friday, Aug. 12, 2016 with Robert De Niro presenting Martin Scorsese's restored "Taxi Driver." The actor will also receive the festival's first lifetime achievement award at the opening night. AP

The festival was born in a sandbag-protected basement during Bosnia's 1992-95 war when a few enthusiasts organized screenings of whatever movie they could get in order to offer some sense of normalcy to the besieged city. Sarajevans braved snipers and mortars to come watch, often paying for tickets with cigarettes.

People would enter the basement of the Academy of Performing Arts through a hole organizers knocked in the wall on the side of the building less exposed to bullets and shrapnel. Watching movies to the sound of the running generator and bombs outside felt like upgrading from pure survival to living.

De Niro drew a parallel to the Tribeca Film festival he co-founded.

The Sarajevo Film Festival "was born during a dark and dangerous time to counter the butchering of war with a celebration of art and humanity," De Niro said. "Six years later, on September 11 in 2001 my own New York neighborhood was attacked and we started the Tribeca Film Festival as a gesture of hope, resilience and defiance," he said.

After the Bosnian war, the Sarajevo festival grew from annual basement screenings into the largest film festival in Southeast Europe and an opportunity for regional film makers who rarely had the chance to mingle among colleagues in Cannes, Hollywood or Venice to meet, discuss projects and walk their own Red Carpet.

By now it no longer is their own. Stars like Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt, Morgan Freeman, Steve Buscemi, Kevin Spacey, Benicio del Toro and many others have in the past few years been presenting their movies here and have walked down the Red Carpet in front of the National Theater.

For many Sarajevans the festival week is the wildest of the year and they plan their vacations around it. Tourists flood the city, concerts start after midnight and cab drivers say even at 3 a.m. it takes a long time to drive through crowds partying on downtown streets in front of bars.

This year, in honor of "Taxi Driver," hundreds of Sarajevo cab drivers drove around all day with De Niro's pictures stuck on their vehicles.

## *Robert De Niro compares Trump with 'Taxi Driver' character*

**SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina** (AP)—Robert De Niro says Donald Trump is like the main character of the legendary 1976 movie "Taxi Driver," the mentally disturbed Travis Bickle.

"What he has been saying is totally crazy, ridiculous, stuff that shouldn't be even ... he is totally nuts," De Niro said during a question and answer session at the Sarajevo Film Festival.

When the moderator asked De Niro to elaborate on Bickle's mental illness, the first thing that seemed to have crossed the actor's mind was the Republican candidate.

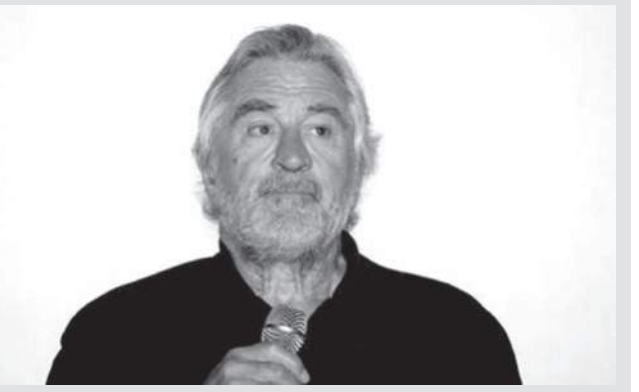
"One of the things to me was just the irony at the end, he (Bickle) is back driving a cab, celebrated, which is kind of relevant in some way today too," De Niro said.

"People like Donald Trump who shouldn't be where he is so ... God help us," De Niro said.

Sarajevans responded with a frantic applause.

De Niro says the media had given too much attention, but are now starting to say "come on Donald, this is ridiculous, this is nuts, this is insane."

De Niro opened the 22nd Sarajevo Film Festival on Friday, presented Martin Scorsese's restored "Taxi Driver" and received the festival's first lifetime achievement award.



AP

US actor Robert De Niro pauses as he speaks after receiving an award, at the Sarajevo Film Festival in Sarajevo, Bosnia, Friday, Aug. 12, 2016.

## Jamie Dornan is ready for life after 'Fifty Shades'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—What's Jamie Dornan got to look forward to? The links.

While happy to be employed, the "Fifty Shades" hunk said he's been working on back-to-back projects for what seems like forever and can't wait to "play a bit of golf" as he chills at home in London with his wife and two young children later this year.

"They've been with me everywhere I've filmed but still I'd like to have more than just the weekends and the odd evening with them," Dornan said during a recent media tour. "It's time to be on daddy duty for a while."

So what's he been up to? Making the last two "Fifty Shades" movies, for starters, and wrapping the third season of "The Fall," the BBC series that launched his career.

There was also filming of a Netflix military thriller, "Jadotville," in a role based on a real-life commandant of an Irish UN contingent in the Congo. And then there's "Anthropoid," out Friday, another true-to-life war role, this one in Nazi-occupied Prague.

Oh, and he squeezed in "The 9th Life of Louis Drax," which has him playing a doctor with questionable judgment and cool mind-reading skills, against a boy in a coma.

Veering in and out of all of these worlds at a breakneck pace suits Dornan just fine.

"I love that aspect of it. My mind can be quite busy and sort of constantly kinetic and I think ... I've picked a good profession to sort of enable that," he said. "But sometimes it's tricky."

Tricky, as in putting on a Czech accent and tossing grenades as the vulnerable, inexperienced freedom fighter Jan Kubis, a national hero in the Czech Republic. The character and other Czechs in exile (including Cillian Murphy's Josef Gabcik) parachute into their homeland in December 1941 to assassinate Reinhard Heydrich, the No. 3 SS man behind Hitler himself and the chief engineer of the Final Solution.

Unlike some Hollywood war shoot-em-ups, Dornan felt the weight of history, and the desire to get it right, as did his fellow Irishman, Murphy, and director Sean Ellis, who also co-wrote, served as director of photography and produced.

When it comes to mainstream war thrillers, Dornan said there isn't always "such an intention to stick to the facts or tell a very truthful portrayal," but he acknowledged certain realities that "you are still making two hours of entertainment, so there's got to be compromises here or there, something else sprinkled in that elevates the story."

That's true, he said, even when the history is not generally known.

AP

Actress Ana Geislerova, left, director Sean Ellis, actress Charlotte Le Bon, actor Cillian Murphy and actor Jamie Dornan attend the premiere of "Anthropoid" at AMC Loews Lincoln Square on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2016, in New York.

Such is the case of Operation Anthropoid and its handful of resistance fighters as they conjure great fearlessness and fight their own high anxiety, including a whopper of a panic attack for Dornan's character.

The repercussions of the mission were great. Reich executed thousands of Czech civilians after the killing of Heydrich, known as the "Butcher of Prague." His death came not in the moment as planned but a week later from infection in wounds inflicted by a grenade.

By one estimate, Hitler slaughtered 5,000 Czechs in the Anthropoid aftermath. More were arrested and sent to camps, including Jan's girlfriend, Anna, played by Lenka Fafkova, a star in the Czech Republic.

# Kenny Baker, who played R2-D2 in 'Star Wars,' dead at 81

**LONDON** (AP)—Kenny Baker played the lovable droid R2-D2 in the "Star Wars" films, achieving cult status and fans' adulation without showing his face or speaking any lines.

The 3-foot 8-inch (1.1 meter) performer—a word he preferred to actor—inside the waste-bin-shaped costume has died at 81. Baker's nephew and carer, Drew Myerscough, said he found Baker dead Saturday at his home in Preston, northwest England.

Myerscough told Sky News that Baker had suffered years of breathing problems, "which he had borne very bravely." He said the affection of "Star Wars" fans around the world "kept him going, without any doubt."

"He was amazed that, even after 30-odd years, the fans still basically adored him," Myerscough said.

Baker's agent, Johnny Mans, confirmed his death. He said Baker was "one of the nicest guys you could ever wish to meet, and a fabulous and talented performer."

AP

In this Saturday, May 26, 2007 file photo, actor Kenny Baker, who portrayed the R2-D2 in the first Star Wars movie, signs autographs at Star Wars Celebration IV, billed as the world's biggest Star Wars party, marking the 30th anniversary of the release of the first film in the Star Wars saga, at the Los Angeles Convention Center. Baker, 81, has died Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016.

Mark Hamill, the "Star Wars" series' Luke Skywalker, tweeted: "Goodbye #KennyBaker A lifelong loyal friend-I loved his optimism & determination. He WAS the droid I was looking for!"—a reference to a famous line from the first film.

Actor Ewan McGregor, who played Obi-Wan Kenobi in three "Star Wars" movies, tweeted: "So sorry to hear about this. It was lovely working with Kenny."

Born to a music-loving family in the central England city of Birmingham on Aug 24, 1934, Baker started performing at 16 as part of a troupe called "Burton Lester's Midgets."

Baker told The Associated Press in 1985 that Burton had asked him "What can you do?' I said I could roller skate, ride a bike and whistle. I joined them and did all that, and conjuring tricks, played drums and comedy routines as well."

Baker later worked as a DJ and circus clown, and as half a comedy-musical duo called the Mini-Tones with Jack Purvis, who also appeared in the "Star Wars" films.

Fame came when he was cast as the actor inside R2-D2's cylindrical robot costume in 1977's "Star Wars."

"I worked the levers," he told the AP.

Baker said he initially turned down the part. In an interview on his website, he said he told director George Lucas "I don't want to be stuck in a robot, what for, for goodness sake?"

Eventually, he said he told Lucas, "I'll help you out."

Even though R2-D2's dialogue amounted only to beeps and whistles, the droid and his lanky friend C-3PO became two of the series' most beloved characters.

Baker returned for "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi," and reprised the role in three prequels released between 1999 and 2005.

## 'South Park' game maker invents fart-smelling VR system

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The creators of an upcoming "South Park" video game have developed a stinky spin on virtual reality.

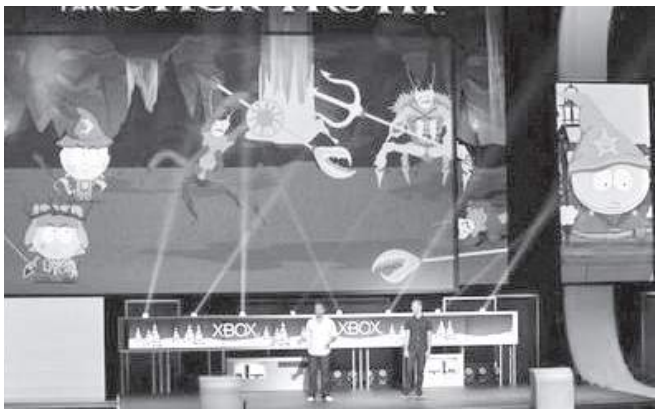
Ubisoft unveiled plans Friday for a VR mask that will pump fart smells into gamers' nostrils as they play the game "South Park: The Fractured But Whole."

The system called the Nosulus Rift won't be available for sale. It was designed for use at live events, such as the Penny Arcade Expo and Gamescom.

The latest "South Park" game casts players as the gassy new kid in town and lampoons superhero culture.

Ubisoft senior producer Jason Schroeder says the technology is "the most immersive way" for players to experience the character's superpower.

The 20th season of the animated adult series is set to premiere Sept. 14 on Comedy Central.



In this June 4, 2012, file photo, television show South Park co-creators Trey Parker, left, and Matt Stone present South Park's new interactive game for Xbox: "The Stick of Truth," at the Microsoft Xbox E3 2012 media briefing in Los Angeles. Ubisoft unveiled plans Friday, Aug. 12, 2016, for a VR mask that will pump fart smells into gamers' nostrils as they play "South Park: The Fractured But Whole."

## Limeliters folk singer Glenn Yarbrough dies at 86

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Glenn Yarbrough, a founding member of folk trio The Limeliters, has died. He was 86.

The folk singer's daughter, Holly Yarbrough Burnett, says he died surrounded by friends and family at home Thursday in Nashville, Tennessee, after suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, dementia and other health issues.

Yarbrough sang and played guitar with fellow Limeliters members Lou Gottlieb and Alex Hassilev from 1959 and 1963.

The group was known for such songs as "There's a Meetin' Here Tonight," ''City of New Orleans," ''A Dollar Down" and "Lonesome Traveler."

Yarbrough left the group in 1963 and had a solo career that spanned nearly 40 years. He achieved his highest charting success with the 1965 song "Baby the Rain Must Fall." It reached No. 2 on Billboard's adult contemporary chats.

## Cousin: Family held private service for Prince

**MINNEAPOLIS** (AP)—A cousin of Prince says family members and close friends gathered in Minneapolis to say goodbye to the musician and remember his life.

Prince died April 21 of an accidental drug overdose. He was 57.

Cousin Chazz Smith told KARE-TV (http://kare11.tv/2boqtCM ) that Friday's service was held at a Minneapolis church. Another private service is planned for Saturday at Paisley Park.

Smith says the last few months have been hard. He says the family is doing its best to preserve Prince's image as others have come forward with false stories about the superstar.

Smith said he's proud to be Prince's cousin, and he hopes his death from a fentanyl overdose will help others struggling with painkillers.

A public tribute for Prince is scheduled for October at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

AP

Manuela Testolini, Prince's ex-wife, exits the Hennepin County Family Court building in Minneapolis on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2016.

## Needy wife can't let her husband out of her sight

DEAR ABBY: This is my second marriage. My first husband died when our daughter was 5 months old. I met my current husband, "Robert," when she was 6. We have a wonderful relationship as a couple and as a family. He's an amazing husband and father. We now have another child who is 7 months old.

I fear I have become a problem for Robert. I'm so attached to him that I don't ever want him to leave. He works from home—even though he shouldn't—because I want him to be with me. I end up distracting him and he misses deadlines. His job is almost over because the grant is over, and he's looking for a job. We are both very worried about this.

I know Robert will never complain about my need for his attention. I know he prefers us to be together, but he needs to work and I need to let him. I don't know why I struggle with this. I have never behaved this way.

CAN'T LET GO

**DEAR CAN'T LET GO: I have a hunch that what's going on with you is that you lost your first husband, and you're terrified that if this one isn't with you every minute, something terrible will happen to him, too.**

**Because this is having a negative impact on his career, it is extremely important that you learn how to manage this insecurity. The quickest way to accomplish it would be to talk this over with a licensed psychotherapist who can give you the insight and the tools you need. Please don't put it off.**

**DEAR ABBY:** As an established patient with a specialized doctor, I recently went for my annual checkup. My appointment was scheduled a year ago. As I was checking in, I was informed that my doctor now collects all insurance co-pays before seeing patients.

As a senior citizen, I was shocked. Being expected to pay before the service makes me feel like he doesn't trust me. I can understand a convenience store expecting me to pay for my gas upfront because of drive-offs, but not a professional medical provider. I pay all my bills on time and have excellent credit.

It may be my age, but I want to feel respected and trusted. Shouldn't a doctor's office trust its established patients enough to allow them to pay once the service has been rendered? Has our country fallen so low that we are all guilty until proven innocent?

FRUSTRATED PATIENT IN OKLAHOMA

**DEAR FRUSTRATED: The reason you were asked for your co-pay in advance may have nothing to do with YOUR personal trustworthiness. Your doctor may have had more than a few patients who were delinquent in paying.**

**Because you were offended, this is something you should discuss with your physician who, because of your long relationship, may be willing to make an exception. However, if that's not the case, you might be more comfortable taking your business to another doctor.**

*To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*

### DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

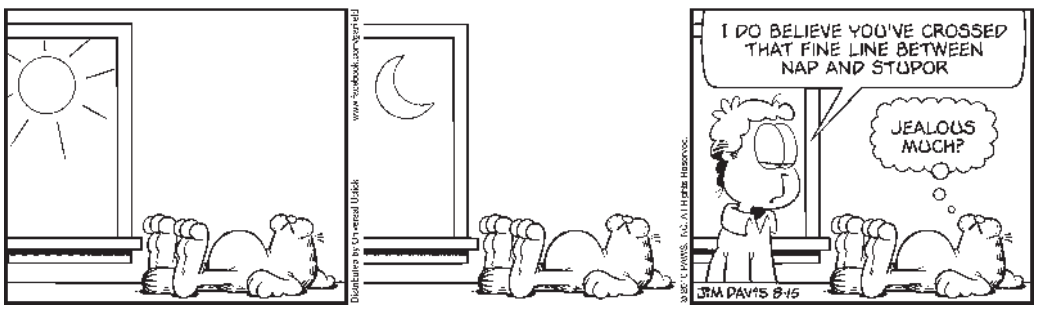
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

"ADD TWO EGGS AND STIR."
RIGHT.
THE RECIPE SAYS IT MAKES TWENTY PANCAKES, SO WE'LL EACH GET TEN.
NAH, THAT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
WE'LL JUST MAKE ONE BIG PANCAKE AND CUT IT IN HALF.

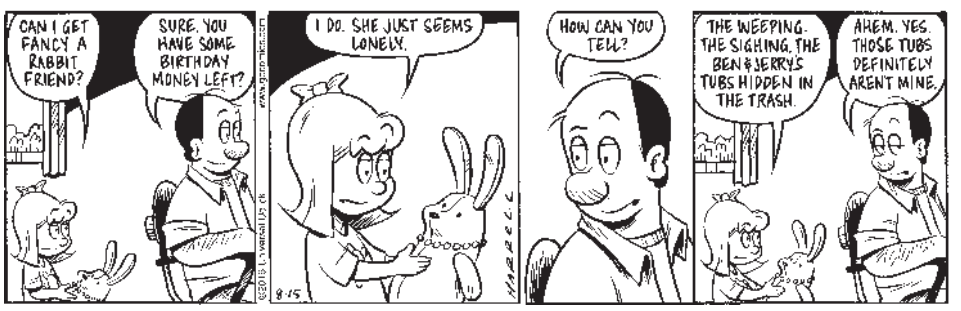
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis




## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


CAN I GET FANCY A RABBIT FRIEND?
SURE. YOU HAVE SOME BIRTHDAY MONEY LEFT?
I DO. SHE JUST SEEMS LONELY.
HOW CAN YOU TELL?
THE WEEPING. THE SIGHING. THE BEN & JERRY'S TUBS HIDDEN IN THE TRASH.
AHEM. YES. THOSE TUBS DEFINITELY AREN'T MINE.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WILL TAKE TO BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD?
A WORLDWIDE HAPPY HOUR.
BUT AFTER 6 O'CLOCK, WE'RE BACK TO DEEP DOO-DOO.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

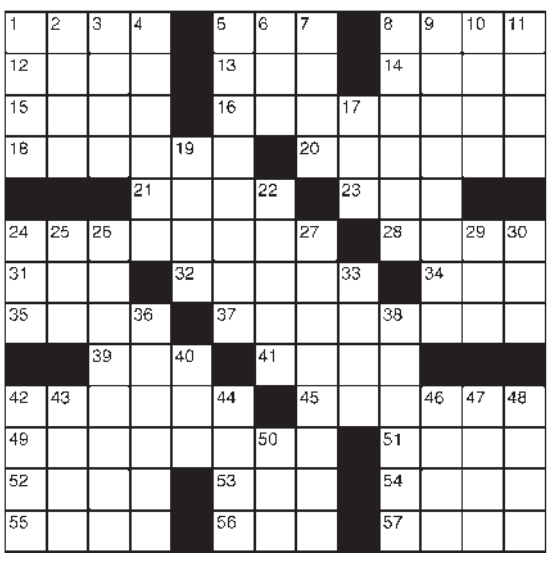
**ACROSS**
1 Genesis name
5 Center
8 Some GIs
12 Antitoxins
13 Designer monogram
14 Slangy suffix for switch
15 Blue shade
16 Make light of
18 Drink
20 "A Rumor of War" author Philip
21 McEnroe's rival
23 Ump
24 Taken, as a seat
28 Historic Scott
31 "Humbug!"
32 Sub detector
34 Buck-eyes' sch.
35 Nuptial vows
37 Model of excellence
39 Sturdy tree
41 Baseball's Tommie
42 Polar
45 Andean critters
49 Luau fish course
51 Sagan or Sandburg
52 Thames town
53 Scooted
54 Aware of
55 Antique cars
56 Nest occupier
57 Left on a map

**DOWN**
1 Italian wine region
2 Consider
3 Bedouin
4 California beach city
5 Father of Helios
6 GI entertainers
7 United nations
8 Livened (up)
9 Frilly ornamentation
10 Geezer
11 London neighborhood
17 Guffaw syllable
19 Conks on the head
22 Columbus' home
24 Kimono sash
25 Scoundrel
26 Tot's train
27 Hanging loosely
29 Computer key
30 "Gee, ya think?"
33 Stagger
36 Lustrous fabrics
38 Manatee
40 Kipling lad
42 From the U.S.
43 Assess
44 Give a darn
46 Lion's pride?
47 Sciences' partner
48 Coin aperture
50 Harpy

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | F | M | ■ | I | O | S | P | ■ | S | T | A | G |
| O | V | I | ■ | A | B | O | C | ■ | H | O | N | E |
| D | I | S | T | R | E | S | S | ■ | U | H | G | E |
| S | L | O | O | P | S | ■ | T | L | C | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | W | E | E | ■ | W | A | K | E | J | T |
| C | L | A | ■ | R | ■ | F | A | B | ■ | D | N | A |
| R | A | P | T | ■ | S | ■ | R | ■ | S | N | I | T |
| O | R | E | ■ | P | C | I | ■ | S | C | A | I | S |
| C | A | T | T | L | E | ■ | S | K | A | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | A | Y | N | ■ | A | U | R | O | R | A |
| F | L | U | B | ■ | T | O | L | L | F | R | E | E |
| C | O | M | B | ■ | E | W | O | K | ■ | C | A | R |
| C | O | P | Y | ■ | D | E | N | S | ■ | A | D | D |

**Friday's answer 8 - 15**



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Jennifer Lawrence, 26; Joe Jonas, 27; Ben Affleck, 44; Anthony Anderson, 46.

**Happy Birthday**: Rejuvenate, rebuild and recycle. This is a time of growth, endurance and making things happen instead of just thinking about it. Do what feels right and satisfies your needs. Changes at home will help you get a better sense of how you want to move forward. Travel will lead to new possibilities. Your numbers are 7, 12, 20, 24, 32, 38, 47.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Finishing what you start will be important. Business ventures look promising, but will not be without unusual twists and turns. Be prepared to do things differently to avoid being left out. Keep your emotions out of your negotiations. ✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Review what's being asked of you before agreeing. Aim to get the most value for the least money, and refuse to take responsibility for something that isn't your problem. Romance is featured. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): You can make changes at home, but work out every detail and review your budget before you decide to take on any debt. It's best to stay within your means and be honest about what you will and won't be able to do. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Don't be afraid to share your emotions with others. Express your feelings and share your solutions, and you'll be surprised by how quickly you get your way. A relationship will grow into something special. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Be ready to initiate your plans. The more prepared you are, the easier it will be to convince others to comply with your decisions and actions. Don't promise anything unless you are sure you can deliver. Put some muscle behind your plans. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You have the means to move forward. Refuse to let anyone limit your ability to work toward an important goal. Don't give in to someone's unrealistic demands. Instead, be prepared with an alternative solution. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Keep an open mind and you'll find a way to keep the peace and satisfy everyone's needs. A little finesse will encourage others. Make the changes necessary to move forward without further delay. Keep emotional manipulation at bay. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take over. It will help you set the stage for what you want to see unfold. Your insight into the available options will help you clear up any misconceptions that are thrown your way. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Keep a close watch over what's being said, done and offered. Ask questions if you aren't sure what's expected of you. A positive lifestyle change will improve your surroundings and help you distance yourself from poor influences. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Let your memory be your guide when dealing with joint ventures. Question whether you need to partner with someone in order to get ahead. Don't allow emotional appeals to sway your opinion. A romantic plan will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): A serious look at your past professional gains and losses will help you make an adjustment that will be critical to your future. Secret information will be revealed. Being honest will be to your advantage. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): If you want something, go after it. Don't allow anyone to deter you from getting what you deserve. Step outside your comfort zone if it will help you achieve what you set out to do. A relationship looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are reliable, intelligent and determined. You are practical and hardworking..

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | | 9 | | 6 | 7 | | |
| 6 | | 8 | | | | 4 | | 2 |
| | | | | 3 | 2 | 8 | | |
| 8 | 7 | | | | 1 | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | 3 | |
| | | | 2 | | | | 8 | 9 |
| | | 7 | 3 | 6 | | | | |
| 9 | | 6 | | | | 3 | | 5 |
| | | 1 | 7 | | 8 | | 4 | |

Difficulty Level ★ 8/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Friday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 2 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| 6 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 |

Difficulty level ★★★★

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**THE TRAGICALLY HIP (BAND)** **Solution:** 14 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | N | B | M | A | R | E | V | E | F | E | K | A | L | D |
| O | A | O | A | N | M | E | I | N | W | O | D | U | A | S |
| E | P | I | E | N | A | C | T | O | U | R | X | O | N | T |
| G | P | S | D | G | D | L | K | H | O | U | R | A | G | R |
| Y | L | C | I | A | I | I | N | B | R | I | E | C | L | A |
| A | E | S | V | V | N | P | B | Y | A | L | C | O | O | E |
| C | S | I | E | G | H | A | A | L | R | U | O | M | I | H |
| B | S | D | S | A | K | F | C | O | E | A | U | P | S | C |
| O | T | T | N | E | Y | N | W | O | P | P | R | L | G | I |
| B | O | T | R | N | I | E | C | A | R | G | A | E | N | T |
| N | O | O | N | S | N | A | H | E | A | D | G | T | I | S |
| M | B | H | D | H | E | N | H | O | U | S | E | E | K | U |
| G | O | R | D | O | N | R | E | D | O | M | E | L | N | O |
| J | O | N | U | J | M | C | E | N | T | U | R | Y | I | C |
| G | N | I | N | N | A | M | P | I | S | T | O | L | S | A |

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Acoustic, Ahead, Apples, Band, Bobcaygeon, Boots, Canadian, Century, Completely, Cordelia, Courage, Davis, Discs, Downie, Gordon, Gord Sinclair, Grace, Hearts, Henhouse, Johnny Fay, Juno, Kingston, Lake Fever, Langlois, Live, Luxury, Manning, Modern, New Orleans, Paul, Phantom, Pigeon, Pistols, Road, Rob Baker, Sinking, Tour

**Last Thursday's Answer: Slither**

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## EMPLOYMENT

1 General Manager: $1,200-1,760/mo. Bachelor's degree & 4 yrs experience required. Must report to overseas owner in Korean. Email resume to jnd@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Piano teacher: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in music education and at least five years of experience required. Email resume to yonsei@hanmisaipan.com.

Building and ground maintenance repairer. Extensive experience and references required. Contact Tapochau Estates at 483-9531.

1 Accountant: $1,200-$2,000/mo. Bachelor's degree in accounting and least 2 years experience required. Must be familiar with U.S. GAAP. Public accounting experience required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**DIPOTO CO.**

**(1) General Manager (Photographer)**
10 years experience with an average skills in Computer Design

**(2) Photographers**
3 years experience in photo shooting and design

Able to speak/understand Korean and Japanese language.

Salary commensurable to experience.

Please send resume to P.O. Box 506448 or email at dipoto@naver.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**ACCOUNTANT (1) –** Must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

**GENERAL MECHANIC (1) –** Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7688 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or may email to saipan@americopters.com. No phone calls please.

### L&T Group of Companies

is inviting individuals to apply for the following positions:

**Accountant**
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

*L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*
*Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

### L&T Group of Companies, Ltd.

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

**Administrative Assistant for Sports Facilities**
High school diploma or GED Certificate plus experience working in sports organization or sports facilities for at least 2 years. Must be computer literate in Microsoft Word and Email. With experience in preparing of reports and schedules for sports activities and with good written and oral communication skills. Coaching & training experience is a plus. Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

*L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*
*Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

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Email: info@guam.wish.org | www.guam.wish.org
Saipan Tribune

"I want to be a firefighter!"
*BJ Belacora, 6 yrs.*

### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
### CNMI GOVERNMENT

**INVITATION TO BID**
**ITB NO.: ITB16-DLNR/P&R-156**

**SUBMISSION: SEPT. 12, 2016** **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF ONE RIDING MOVER FOR DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION"**

THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ RICHARD SEMAN**
SECRETARY OF DLNR

**/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

### Commonwealth Development Authority

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 I Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**RFP No.: 2016-CDA-07-RFP**

**CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, August 31, 2016** **TIME: 10:00 a.m.**

**"INSURANCE FOR CDA'S PROPERTIES"**

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Building in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

**/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN**
Executive Director

**/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

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Job duties: The operations manager is responsible in planning and implementation of the overall business direction of the company. Responsible for creating production and marketing plans and making sure these plans are implemented and targets are achieved accordingly.

Job requirements: Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 6 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in business operations. Must have experience in business operation reporting, contract negotiation with suppliers and service contractors including identifying new business opportunities. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 04-2016**

**Opening date: July 29, 2016** **Closing date: August 26, 2016**

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(1) AOA Controller-I (Saipan)
(1) Mechanic-I (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
(1) Administrative Assistant (Rota)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original police record not more than six (6) months old, copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, August 26, 2016 (ChST).*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal. For additional information, please contact the HR Office by calling (670) 237-6500 or via email at evelyn.sablan@cpa.gov.mp.

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# LeBron signs $100M contract with Cavaliers

**CLEVELAND** (AP) — LeBron James didn't waste any time signing his new contract.

A day after agreeing to a deal that can pay him $100 million over the next three seasons, the Cavaliers superstar signed it Friday and will make $31 million next season.

James, who can become a free agent in the third season, will make $33 million in 2017-18, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press. James' 2018-19 option is worth $36 million, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because financial terms were not disclosed.

In his third season back in Cleveland, James led the Cavs to the title, the first for one of the city's three professional sports teams since the Browns won the NFL championship in 1964.

"We are very fortunate to have a championship group together," Cavs general manager David Griffin said. "One that has grown organically to trust, and sacrifice for one another—on and off the floor. At the core of that group is LeBron. His leadership, passion and tireless commitment are the hallmarks of our success and have inspired our entire franchise.

"His connection and dedication to his community and this fan base are absolute. We share his determination to win at the highest level and can't wait to get back to work, together to defend our title."

AP

LeBron James, right, signed a three-year, $100-million contract with the Cavaliers.

The Cavs rallied from a 3-1 deficit in the finals to stun Golden State, winning Game 7 on the road. Late in that game, James raced back to block a shot by Andre Iguodala, a rejection that has become the signature play of the three-time champion's career.

James, who has spent most of his time since winning his third title in Los Angeles, posted a photo of him signing the deal on his Instagram account with the caption "Committed!!" He's seated next to agent and close friend, Rich Paul.

A four-time MVP and 12-time All-Star, James averaged 25.3 points, 7.4 rebounds and 6.8 assists last season. The 31-year-old shows little sign of slowing down, and on Thursday he said on a Twitter posting he's focused on the Cavs defending their title.

Appearing in his sixth straight finals last season, he averaged 29.7 points, 11.3 rebounds, 8.9 assists and 2.3 blocks, becoming the first player to lead a series in every major statistical category.

Meanwhile, TNT is adding a Monday night doubleheader package to its NBA coverage, starting with an NBA Finals rematch on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The Cleveland Cavaliers will visit the Golden State Warriors on Jan. 16, returning to the arena where they won their first championship with a victory in Game 7. The Oklahoma City Thunder face the Los Angeles Clippers in the late game.

TNT already televises a Thursday night doubleheader. The Monday night coverage is part of Turner Sports' long-term extension with the NBA that includes enhanced multimedia rights.

The network will televise the NBA season opener between Cleveland and New York on Oct. 25 and 64 games overall during the regular season.

# Blue-and-gold day in LA as Rams come home after 22 years

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)— From the morning when the first tailgaters arrived to the evening and a game-winning drive, the Rams gave Los Angeles fans that old NFL feeling back.

There was no Deacon or Dickerson, and the old familiar blue and yellow were replaced with St. Louis gold, navy and white, but the horns on the helmets were the same, and so was the name: "Ladies and gentlemen, it is time to welcome home to the LA Coliseum, YOUR Los Angeles Rams!" the announcer shouted, bringing a roar the local crowd hasn't been able to let loose since 1994.

Even an opening kickoff return for a touchdown by the Dallas Cowboys' Lucky Whitehead in Saturday's preseason opener for both teams couldn't kill the mood, and many late-arriving LA fans missed that anyway.

The Rams' first touchdown in their new-old town, a 14-yard run by Benny Cunningham, brought another huge roar from the crowd of 89,140, as though it finally made the move official.

"It was a great feeling," Cunningham said.

The game-winning drive, capped by a touchdown pass from Sean Mannion to Aaron Green, gave the Rams a 28-24 victory and the crowd an even bigger charge.

"Celebrating a new era of NFL football in Los Angeles, we deserve it!" yelled Rachel Barbosa, 40, tailgating outside the Coliseum, where the unmistakable smell of sausages and beer marking an NFL game day hung in the air.

Her tailgate-party partner Rose Gonzalez turned 41 on Saturday and the old-school Rams fan couldn't believe she was getting such a sweet gift.

"Wouldn't want to spend my birthday any other way," Gonzalez said.

Rams jerseys from all eras of the team filled the streets and parks around the Coliseum, the Rams traditional home, though the gates and snack stands still bear the red and gold of the permanent tenant, USC. The Rams will play here while their permanent home is built in nearby Inglewood.

LA fans also had to face the other side of the NFL experience, which they hadn't missed as much: Weekend traffic that felt like weekday rush hour, sky-high parking prices, and shouting matches with hardcore Cowboy fans.

And the city's new Expo Line light rail train that stops at the Coliseum was as packed and sweaty as a subway train bound for Yankee Stadium.

But nearly everyone took it all in stride, and smiles abounded.

There might have been no one happier than Douglas Aziz.

"I moved here from Toronto in 1994 because I was a Rams fan," said Aziz, who wore an old-school Deacon Jones No. 75 jersey with his long white hair.

"That was the year they left." He had a gleam in his eye and an ear-to-ear grin at the thought of finally seeing his own team in his hometown 22 year later.

"It's incredible," he said.

Aziz came to the game with his two young-adult sons, Cameron and Colin. Cameron has been a longtime NFL fan, but is now a newly adopted Rams fan and holder of many season tickets.

"I got eight!" he said, and he plans to hold on to them for decades to come. He sold the five he wasn't using for this game for a total of $800, he said.

"For a preseason game!" he said in disbelief.

For other fans it was a return to old traditions.

Russel Nadel and his wife came to Rams games in the Coliseum in the 1970s, and to the teams' games in Anaheim in the 80s and early 90s.

"We've been going to San Diego for games, to see the Chargers, because it was the best we could do," he said.

But they never became more than lukewarm Chargers fans.

Today, they were overjoyed to give their full affection to a team again.

"It's a special day," he said.

Meanwhile, in New York, Rex Ryan took exception with Colts owner Jim Irsay's suggestion that the reason Indianapolis sat out Andrew Luck was because the Buffalo Bills coach doesn't let up in the preseason.

"Take a look at the tapes and see how many times we blitzed, so," Ryan said, before pausing to collect his thoughts.

"I can tell you one thing, (Colts coach) Chuck Pagano's a good friend of mine, a legitimate good friend of mine. I have way more respect for him than I do others."

Ryan's comment was clearly directed at Irsay following Buffalo's preseason-opening 19-18 loss to the Colts on Saturday night.

Two hours before the game, Irsay announced on his Twitter account that the Colts would wait until next week for Luck to make his first preseason start.

Irsay followed with a second tweet, by writing: "Yes, there is some truth on this dark, rainy night; that my good friend Rex...has never heard of the word....PRESEASON." He closed the comment with a laughing face emoji and three exclamation points.

Pagano said it was his decision to sit Luck against Buffalo. And Pagano didn't waver when reminded he was prepared to have Luck play a week earlier against Green Bay in the Hall of Fame game before it was canceled because of an unplayable field.

"It's one of the benefits that you get when you're the head coach," Pagano said with a smile. "You get to decide who plays and who doesn't play."

Minus Luck, backups Scott Tolzien and Stephen Morris teamed up to pull out the victory.

Tolzien, an offseason free-agent addition, shook off a slow start to produce two scoring drives in the first half. And then Morris, who was signed off Philadelphia's practice squad in December, secured the win with a 57-yard touchdown pass to Chester Rogers with 10:42 remaining.

# Cardinals halt Cubs'11-game winning streak

**CHICAGO** (AP)— Hot as they've been of late, even the Chicago Cubs couldn't withstand a six-run eighth inning.

Randal Grichuk hit a grand slam to cap the six-run burst and the St. Louis Cardinals stopped the Cubs' 11-game winning streak, beating Chicago 8-4 on Saturday.

The Cardinals took advantage of a bullpen missing injured setup men Pedro Strop and Hector Rondon. Starter Kyle Hendricks handed over a 2-2 game to Carl Edwards Jr. (0-1) to begin the eighth, and he allowed two runs on four walks, a single and a wild pitch. Joe Smith then entered and allowed Grichuk's slam.

"That's an example of what the team looks like without Strop and Rondon," manager Joe Maddon said. "Regardless, I felt really good with C.J. in that moment. He has been outstanding."

Edwards had allowed just one run over his previous 11 appearances, and his ERA ballooned from 1.42 to 3.66 on Saturday.

Smith, meanwhile, has an 8.10 ERA in five games since being acquired from the Angels. The sidewinding right-hander has allowed three home runs, two to righties.

"I never had a problem with that in my career. I don't know (the answer)," Smith said. "Aggravating. Coming to a new team, you want to do well."

Hendricks gave up solo homers to Jedd Gyorko and Brandon Moss but was otherwise outstanding over seven innings. He matched his career high with 12 strikeouts while allowing five hits and no walks.

AP

St. Louis Cardinals' Randal Grichuk, right, is greeted by Jedd Gyorko (3) after hitting a grand slam against the Chicago Cubs during the eighth inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016, in Chicago.

### Yankees 8, Rays 4

In New York, Tyler Austin and Aaron Judge became the first teammates to hit home runs in the first at-bats of their major league debuts in the same game, sparking New York past Tampa Bay.

And New York's 24-year-old newbies did it back-to-back in a five-pitch span during the second inning.

### Indians 5, Angels 1

In Cleveland, rookie Mike Clevinger took a no-hitter into the sixth inning to get his first major league win and Cleveland one-hit Los Angeles.

Andrelton Simmons got Los Angeles' only hit on a grounder with two outs in the sixth. Shortstop Francisco Lindor got his glove on the ball while ranging to his right, but it bounced into left field for a single.

### Giants 6, Orioles 2

In San Francisco, Madison Bumgarner snapped a five-start winless streak with seven shutout innings, Denard Span had four RBI and San Francisco beat Baltimore.

Bumgarner (11-7) had lost five of his previous seven decisions. He allowed just three hits, struck out eight and allowed three walks.

### Dodgers 8, Pirates 4

In Los Angeles, Joc Pederson homered and Los Angeles had 17 hits and a pair of successful challenges in victory over Pittsburgh.

Pederson had his 17th homer, a two-run shot and finished with three hits. Corey Seager also three hits and an RBI, and Los Angeles overcame a 3-1 deficit by scoring in each of the first six innings.

### Phillies 6, Rockies 3

In Philadelphia, Maikel Franco hit a three-run homer, then was in the middle of a testy exchange that led to the benches clearing and a pair of ejections in Philadelphia's victory over Colorado.

On a hot, humid evening with a gametime temperature of 93 degrees and a heat index of 105, tempers flared in the fourth inning. Rockies starter Tyler Anderson (4-4) plunked Franco on the leg with his first pitch. Franco, who homered in his previous at-bat, stayed at home plate and stared out at Anderson while players from both teams barked at each other. Anderson moved toward Franco and appeared to tell him to go to first base and that he didn't hit him intentionally.

### Mets 3, Padres 2, 11 innings

In New York, Wilmer Flores drove in the winning run when rookie second baseman Ryan Schimpf made a wild throw to plate in the 11th inning, and New York brushed off two stunning homers to beat San Diego.

Just called up from the minors, Gabriel Ynoa (1-0) pitched a perfect inning to win his major league debut after Jacob deGrom gave the Mets a dominant start.

### Blue Jays 4, Astros 2

In Toronto, Russell Martin hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the sixth inning, Aaron Sanchez pitched seven innings to help Toronto end Houston's winning streak at four.

Sanchez (12-2) survived a shaky first inning to win for the first time since July 25 against San Diego. Jason Grilli pitched the eighth and Roberto Osuna finished for his 26th save.

### Nationals 7, Braves 6

In Washington, Daniel Murphy hit a two-run homer and drove in four runs, rookie Reynaldo Lopez pitched seven innings for his first major league win and Washington beat Atlanta.

Trea Turner had three hits, including a homer and one of Washington's three triples. Ben Revere had the other two and drove in a run for the NL East leaders.

### Twins 5, Royals 3

In Minneapolis, Brian Dozier hit his 25th home run of the season and the 100th of his career, leading Tyler Duffey and Minnesota past Kansas City.

Dozier has 17 homers since June 25, most in the majors over that span. He also doubled and scored twice to held the Twins end a four-game losing streak. Robbie Grossman also homered.

### White Sox 8, Marlins 7

In Miami, Dioner Navarro scored the go-ahead run on a strikeout, capping a bizarre eighth-inning comeback in Chicago's comeback victory over Miami.

The White Sox blew an early 4-0 lead and trailed 7-6 to start the eighth. They rallied against Kyle Barraclough (6-3) with the help of a walk, two wild pitches and Justin Morneau's first pinch-hit of the year, a double.

### Tigers 2, Rangers 0

In Arlington, Casey McGehee had four of Detroit's 14 hits against Cole Hamels, Matt Boyd pitched seven scoreless innings and the Tigers beat AL-leading Texas to snap a five-game losing streak.

Boyd (4-2) limited the Rangers to two hits with three strikeouts and two walks in his longest start this season. The left-hander is 4-0 his last six starts.

### Mariners 4, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Robinson Cano and Nelson Cruz homered, leading Seattle over Oakland for its seventh victory in eight games.

Cruz hit his 29th home run leading off the fourth inning. Seth Smith singled in the go-ahead run with two outs in the fifth, and Cano hit the next pitch from Kendall Graveman (8-8) over the center-field wall for his 26th homer.

### Red Sox 6, Diamondbacks 3

In Boston, Brock Holt hit a two-run homer, Sandy Leon had a solo shot and Boston beat Arizona.

Rookie Andrew Benintendi and Dustin Pedroia each had two hits and drove in a run for Boston. The Red Sox have won two in row after losing four of five.

### Reds 11, Brewers 5

In Milwaukee, Eugenio Suarez hit a three-run home run during an eight-run sixth inning in Cincinnati's victory over Milwaukee.

The Reds had seven hits in the inning, and Milwaukee added two errors and a wild pitch by starter Zach Davies (9-5) that led to a run.

## *A-Rod released by Yankees, who owe him over $27M*

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Alex Rodriguez was unconditionally released by the New York Yankees on Saturday, ending his 12 years in pinstripes and perhaps his big league career after 22 seasons.

New York's move leaves the team responsible for $27,103,825 remaining in his $275 million, 10-year contract. He is owed $7,103,825 of his $20 million salary for the final 65 days of this season and $20 million next year.

The 41-year-old designated hitter went 1-for-4 with an RBI double in his finale Friday night, a 6-3 win over Tampa Bay. He hit .200 with nine homers and 31 RBI this season. He has 696 home runs, fourth on the career list behind Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714).

Rodriguez's career batting average is at .295. A 14-time All-Star and three-time AL MVP, A-Rod has 3,115 hits and his 2,086 RBI are second to Aaron's 2,297 since RBI became an official statistic. He was suspended for the 2014 season for violations of baseball's drug agreement and labor contract.

Rodriguez's finale was seen by a season-high 368,000 viewers on the Yankees' YES Network, opposite the Olympics, a Mets-Padres game and the New York Giants' NFL preseason game. In addition, the game also was televised nationally on Fox, and YES is no longer available on Comcast.

Mariano Rivera's farewell in 2013 was seen by an average of 258,000 viewers on YES and Derek Jeter's in 2014 by an average of 1.25 million on YES, the most-viewed program ever on a regional sports network.

# CNMI junior players begin bid in POJC today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI junior tennis team players and coach Jeff Race pose for a photo at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport last week before leaving for Fiji to compete in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

Six of the 16 CNMI players in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships are seeded in their respective divisions as action in the annual tournament kicks off today.

Carol Lee is ranked first in the girls U16 singles and is in Group 1 of the round-robin elimination, joining the fourth-seeded Ruby Coffin of Fiji, Sunshein Palik of the Federates States of Micronesia, Daisy Spiti of Vanuatu, and Maanaima Tausi of Samoa. Lee's fellow CNMI bets—Tania Tan and Isabel Heras—are in Group B along with the second-ranked Vienna Kumar of Fiji, No. 3 Naia Guitton of Tahiti, and Tonga's Skylawn Palelei. Heras will face Pelelei in today's first round, while Tan will also duel the Tonga bet along with Guitton on Day 1 of the POJC. Lee is paired against Coffin.

In the girls U14 singles, the third-ranked Malika Miyawaki is pitted against CNMI teammate Asia Raulerson in the first round match in Group 2. In Group 1, the Commonwealth's Conatsu Kaga and Maria Gregoire will challenge American Samoa's Chrystal Christman and top-ranked Eleanor Schuster of Samoa, respectively.

Only the Top 2 players in each group after the round-robin play in the girls U14 and U16 singles will advance to the playoffs.

The boys U14 singles has the same format with the CNMI's Robbie Schorr and Ken Song getting the Top 2 seeding in the division. The No. 1 rank Schorr will take on No. 4 pick Samuel Strid on Day 1 of the series of Group 1 matches. Sean Lee is also in Group 1 and will meet Strid, too, and American Samoa's John Paul Lim in the opening day. In Group 2, the second-seeded Song will collide against No. 3 Vaitea Molinier of Tahiti and Fiji's Shantanu Shail.

In the boys U12 singles, the CNMI also has two seeded players in No. 3 Ji Min Woo and No. 4 Seung Jin Paik. Woo is in Group 4 and will have back-to-back games today, facing Samoa's Rafael Tapusoa first before battling Fiji's Storm Cornish. Paik has twin matches, too on Day 1, as he takes on Tahiti's Haunui Montas and Samoa's Corey Duseigneur in Group 3.

The boys U16 singles is also divided into four pools with Vincent Tudela in Group 2 and Michael Ren in Group 3. Tudela's first foe is Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy, while Ren will start his bid in his group against Tahiti and No. 3 seed Heimanarii Laisan.

The 15 CNMI players competing in the POCJ are representing the North Pacific Team, which is coached by the Commonwealth's Jeff Race.

## BEARS

*From Page 28*

the home team is ahead and the match has been played for at least four and a half innings.

With the victory, the Bears now hold a 1-0 advantage in the best-of-five championship series and will try to move closer to the title when they play Game 2 tonight, weather permitting.

The Bears built enough cushion to gain the win in the series opener, thanks to A.J. Lizama's two RBIs and Kiku Lizama's two runs. A.J. RBI single drove Kiku home at the bottom of the first inning, while the former's sacrifice out also brought the latter home at the bottom of the third for the Bears' 2-0 advantage. Angel Palacios made it a 4-0 lead when he singled in J.J. Chong in the same inning and later reached home off a single from designated hitter Marvin Kaipat.

The BSI Aces gave up the early lead to the Bears as the former were held to a one-hitter—a double from Juan Iguel—by pitcher Jose Lizama in the first inning. Jose's solid pitching in the first three innings was complemented by the quick and steady hands of his teammates, who caught five flies and a linedrive and beat three runners at first.

Jose continued to work the mound for the Bears and walked leadoff batter Jeremy Atalig at the top of the fourth before yielding back-to-back singles to Eric Palacios and Falig. Mike Salas was next at bat and went back to the dugout after getting fanned by Jose for the first out. The Bears then got the second out when Falig was tagged out at home by catcher Peyton Lizama, who caught a perfect pass from A.J. from second base.

With two outs and runners on second and third, Luis Iguel stepped on home plate and waited for Jose's pitch. Luis let go of two low balls before hitting the third one and his single eventually brought Atalig and Palacios home and put the BSI Ace on the board. Luis's brother, Juan flied out at second base to end the inning.

With their lead trimmed down to 2, the Bears had the chance to gain more distance at the bottom of the fourth, but the BSI Aces' defense hung tough. The Aces got two quick outs before allowing a single to Kiku and walking Chong. Kiku then stole second and third, while Chong advanced to second off a wild pitch, but the two runners were eventually stranded after shortstop Lamarc Iguel caught a fly from A.J. for the third out.

Despite the missed opportunities, the Bears kept the two-run lead as neither team scored in the fifth inning. The Aces were one step away from getting their third run when Lamarc, the leadoff batter at the top of the fifth, made it to third off the Bears' successive errors, however, the next three batters went down. At the bottom of the fifth, the Bears made it to as far as second with Angel Palacios hitting a standup double before getting tagged out at third. Two more Bears batters flied out in the ensuing plays, leaving Jeffrey Lizama stranded at first and his team holding on to the 4-2 cushion, entering the top of the sixth.

Eric Palacios led off for the BSI Aces in the sixth inning and went down on a 6-3 put-out play, while Falig was next, but failed to complete his stint at the plate when heavy rains started to fall and did not stop.

## JOEL

*From Page 28*

as 7, 58-65. Palino's second field goal came after a cramping Sam Darag completed a 3-point play. Darag tried to retaliate, but overshot his mark. Fortunately, he got the rebound and spotted Gios Gozon under the basker, but the latter was not looking, nearly loosing the ball to the baseline before throwing it back to the court and Karl Marcellana picking up the leather. Marcellana then used the window to bank the shot in for Jonah's 3-point cushion, 78-75, 27 seconds left on the clock.

Jonah celebrated prematurely after that helter-skelter play, failing to go back on defense quickly, while Palino drove strong to the baseline for his third straight bucket that cut the deficit down to one anew, 77-78, 20 seconds remaining in the match.

Left without a time out, Jonah hurriedly went for the inbound play and lost possession when Palino intercepted the inbound pass. Palino then hit a point-blanked shot to put Joel on top, 79-78, 18 ticks left in the finals. Now feeling the pressure after losing the lead and with the clock ticking, Jonah again turned the ball over with Palino picking Chino Ponce's pocket for another steal. Palino was eventually fouled after his second steal as Jonah scrambled to stop the clock.

Palino muffed both charities, but Joel got the offensive board with J.P. Cruz coming out of nowhere and beating two Jonah players for the rebound. Cruz was also fouled and calmly sank the pair of charities to peg the final score. Jonah was left with 8 seconds to pull up for triple to send the game in overtime, but Darag missed, while Marcellana also faltered on his putback as time expired.

Palino top-scored for Joel with his 34 points, while Ocaya and Cruz also finished in twin digits with 18 and 11, respectively.

Darag led all scorers with his 35 markers, as he was forced to take the cudgels for Jonah, who played without Jethro Cruz.

Sans Cruz, who left for the U.S. last Friday to continue his studies, Jonah played catch up with Joel in the first half, which ended with the latter leading by 9, 40-31. The advantage ballooned to as high as 11, 44-33, before Darag anchored the recovery and gave his team its biggest lead, 65-58, 6:37 to go in the match. Darag was then forced to sit down a few minutes later due to cramps and remained on the bench for about three minutes, allowing Palino and company to rally and steal the win in the end.

**Joel 81**— Palino 34, Ocaya 18, Cruz 11, Elchico 7, Ibanez 4, De Leon 3, Ocanada 2, Luke 2.

**Jonah 78** — Darag 35, Marcellana 16, Ponce 13, Bordon 8, Gozon 3, Cabrera 3.

**Scoring by halves:** 40-31, 81-78.

## US

*From Page 28*

more to the total than Michael Phelps, a 23-time gold medalist. Illustrating how not-so-simple this medal-counting business is, the official info portal for the Rio Games even has a different number than the USOC, saying the one the Americans will recognize as No. 1,000 is really No. 1,001.

Whatever the real number, the U.S. is the first to reach four figures - in a landslide. The Soviet Union remains No. 2 on the all-time summer gold list, and no other nation has even reached 500.

"Here's the significance: The next four best nations had 1,004 gold medals coming into Rio," said Bill Mallon, an Olympic historian. "You add up the next four and they barely have more than we do."

At its current rate, China wouldn't reach 1,000 golds until 2100. Germany wouldn't get there until 2204.

**BARELY WINNING:** An unheard of two straight close games for the U.S. Olympic men's basketball team has created a question that few dared consider just a few days ago: Is the best team in the world not good enough for gold?

"I'm not concerned, we're not concerned with things we could do a little bit better," four-time Olympian Carmelo Anthony said. "But we're OK. We're fine."

OK and fine aren't the U.S. standard.

Great. Dominant. Those are the standards the Americans have set.

The problems seem to center on a lack of international experience and time to prepare for the Rio Games.

The Americans are still unbeaten, but they're far from unbeatable going into their final game of the preliminary round Sunday against France.

"We're going to play a team who struggled the last two games and I'm sure they're not too sure, like, who they are as well," France forward Nicolas Batum said. "So it's going to be big matchup Sunday."

The U.S. team that many considered a gold medal lock wouldn't even win its group outright with a loss Sunday, either tying France or sharing first with the French and Australia at 4-1. In fact, the Americans could even end up finishing third in Group A.

**NADAL OUT:** Juan Martin del Potro ended Rafael Nadal's bid for an unprecedented second Olympic singles gold medal in a thrill-a-minute semifinal, then celebrated as if the title were already his, kneeling to kiss the court before leaping into the stands.

Del Potro, who earned a bronze for Argentina four years ago, will add a silver or gold to that after advancing to the Rio de Janeiro Games final by coming back to stun 2008 champion Nadal 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (5) in more than 3 hours Saturday.

"Both of us," Nadal said, "played a very high level."

Using the same ferocious forehands that carried him past No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the first round a week ago, 2009 U.S. Open champion del Potro now will try to pull off a third surprise on Sunday, when he meets defending champion Andy Murray in the best-of-five-set final.

In the women's division, Monica Puig won Puerto Rico's first gold medal in any sport in Olympic history, upsetting Angelique Kerber in the women's tennis singles final. Puig is ranked 34th and is the first unseeded women's singles gold medalist since tennis returned to the Olympics in 1988.

# History's greatest Olympic athlete says goodbye

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (AP)—Standing atop the medal podium for the 23rd time, Michael Phelps teared up, bit his lip and gave a little nod.

This was how he really wanted to go out.

On top of his game in the water.

Totally content away from the pool.

"It turned out pretty cool," Phelps said, another gold medal around his neck. "It's just a perfect way to finish."

Phelps put the United States ahead to stay on the butterfly leg of the 4x100-meter medley relay, giving the most decorated athlete in Olympic history his 23rd career gold medal Saturday night.

If that was the end, and Phelps insists it is, the numbers are simply astonishing.

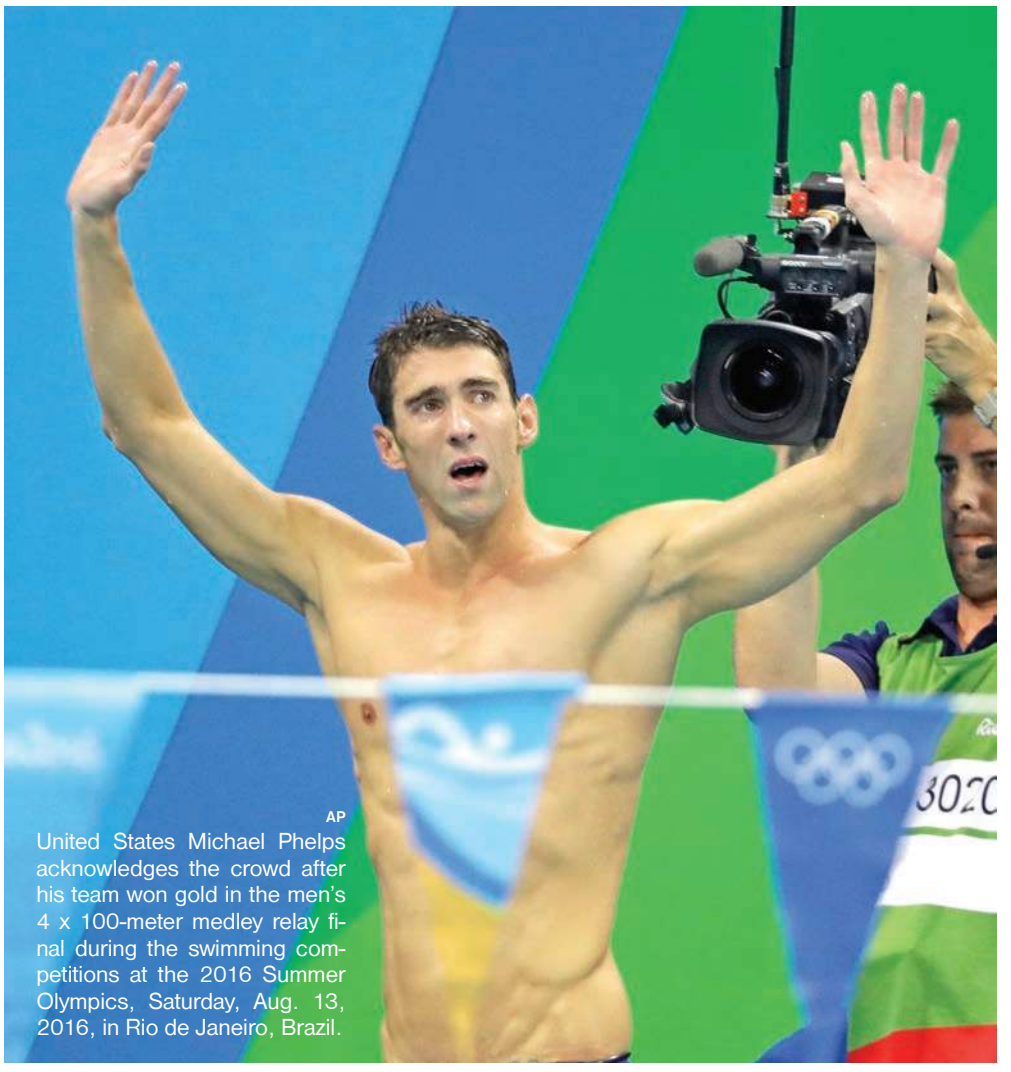
No other Olympian has more than nine gold medals.

With 28 medals in all, he's 10 clear of anyone else.

"It's not even once in a generation," said his coach, Bob Bowman. "It might be once in 10 generations that someone like Michael Phelps comes along. "

As Nathan Adrian touched the wall to finish off the victory, Phelps gathered the other relay swimmers, Ryan Murphy and Cody Miller, in his arms. One night after his only setback of the games, an upset loss to Joseph Schooling in the 100 fly, Phelps was back on top.

At age 31, he leaves Rio with five golds and a silver.



AP

United States Michael Phelps acknowledges the crowd after his team won gold in the men's 4 x 100-meter medley relay final during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics, Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"I wouldn't change anything," he said. "This is the best place I've ever been in my life."

In the stands, his fiancee, Nicole Johnson, bounced along to the music with their son, 3-month-old Boomer, cradled in her arms.

Phelps is eager to spend a lot more time with them. He plans to marry Johnson after the Olympics and said he wants to watch his son grow, maybe even dole out a swimming lesson or two.

And what if Boomer wants to take all those medals to show-and-tell someday?

"I might let him take one," Phelps said with a grin.

"Maybe a bronze," Bowman chimed in.

Most of the U.S. swim team was in the stands to watch Phelps' finale, including the biggest female star at the pool, Katie Ledecky.

The 19-year-old Ledecky joked that she was proud to be part of Phelps' final Olympics—twice. He initially retired after the 2012 London Olympics, only to decide about a year later to return.

The comeback endured a huge setback with his second drunken-driving arrest in 2014, which led to Phelps being banned from the world championships last year. But it also sparked a turnaround in his personal life. He entered six weeks of inpatient therapy, where he got in touch with some of the issues that seemed to lead him astray.

He quit drinking, reconnected with his estranged father, got engaged, moved to Arizona along with Bowman, and became a father for the first time.

Phelps sounds much more adamant when he says his swimming career really is over.

"These games really showed his growth," teammate Anthony Ervin said. "That human spirit, that capacity to heal. I think it showed in his swimming, it showed in his demeanor, and it certainly showed in his leadership on the team."

Phelps was elected a team captain for the first time in his fifth Olympics and truly seemed to enjoy being around his fellow swimmers. He was still the same ruthless competitor, but he was also willing to join in when some of his younger teammates made a carpool karaoke video at their final training camp in Atlanta.

Took a starring role, in fact.

"Being Michael requires such isolation," Ervin said. "Other people respect that. They give him that space because he is the greatest. But this time around he started reaching out, reaching out to other people, bringing them closer, letting that gap be bridged. That was special."

On a victory stroll around the pool, Phelps and his teammates grabbed a sign that said, "Thank You Rio."

# Fiji Olympic gold a win for entire Pacific

**SUVA, Fiji** –The stunning Olympic Games gold medal win by Fiji in the rugby sevens is a celebration for the entire Pacific Islands region, according to the director-general of the Pacific Community, Dr. Colin Tukuitonga.

"This is a magnificent and emphatic victory by a Pacific Island nation on the world stage," Dr Tukuitonga said in Suva today.

"While Fijians are rejoicing, this proud victory will be celebrated across all 22 Pacific Island countries and territories," he said.

In a region beset by youth unemployment and among the highest levels of obesity, diabetes and heart disease globally, Dr Tukuitonga said Fiji's Olympic Games victory had an added dimension as the rugby players were outstanding role models for the benefits of leading active, healthy lifestyles.

"I hope this stunning, well-earned victory by Fiji at the Rio 2016 Olympics will inspire our region's young people to make healthier lifestyle choices and gain greater self-belief they can mix it with the world's best, in sport and any other sector, if they work hard," he said.

AP

Britain's Sam Cross, left, is tackled by Fiji's Apisai Domolailai, during the men's rugby sevens gold medal match at the Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2016.

In 2012, Fiji's Iliesa Delana claimed gold at the Paralympic Games in London in the high jump event when he cleared the bar at 1.74 metres to take home the Pacific's first ever Paralympic gold medal.

"Pacific Island nations may have the smallest teams competing in Rio, but Fiji has today proven they are mighty," Dr. Tukuitonga said.

The other Pacific Islands with teams competing at the Rio Olympics are American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Fiji's victory coincides with International Youth Day.

# Neymar leads Brazil into men's soccer semifinals

**SAO PAULO** (AP)—Neymar scored his first goal of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics on Saturday, giving Brazil a 2-0 win over Colombia and a spot in the semifinals of the men's soccer tournament.

Neymar scored from a free kick in the 12th minute, sending a right-footed shot through the wall and into the lower right corner of the net. Luan added the second in the 83rd at the Arena Corinthians with a shot from outside the area, keeping alive Brazil's hopes of winning the soccer gold medal for the first time.

The game, a sort of rematch from the 2014 World Cup quarterfinals, was heated from the start, with hard fouls from both teams. The benches cleared just before halftime after a vicious foul committed by Neymar, who lashed out after being harassed by opponents nearly every time he touched the ball.

"They really came playing hard, but we were able to overcome the pressure," Brazil forward Luan said. "We were able to get the early goal and that helped us come away with a great victory."

Brazil will next face Honduras, which reached the Olympic semifinals for the first time by defeating South Korea 1-0 at the Mineirao Stadium in Belo Horizonte.

In the other semifinal match, 1996 Olympic champion Nigeria will face Germany, which is playing at the Olympic tournament for the first time since 1988—when Jurgen Klinsmann was in the squad. Germany routed Portugal 4-0 in Brasilia, while Nigeria beat Denmark 2-0 in Salvador.

Neymar, one of the biggest stars at the Rio Games, was provoked just like he was the last two times the South American rivals met at the senior level, including in last year's Copa America when Brazil lost 1-0 and the Barcelona striker was sent off. Two years ago, Neymar's World Cup ended after he took a knee to his back late in Brazil's 2-1 win over the Colombians. Brazil eventually lost to Germany 7-1 in the semifinals.

Upset with the way the Colombians were playing against him, Neymar went in hard against forward Andres Roa, a tackle that earned him a yellow card and ignited a brawl involving both benches.

After the altercation was over, Turkish referee Cuneyt Cakir called both captains for a chat, and also talked to both coaches.

"Neymar is experienced and he did well controlling the game," Luan said. "But the whole team deserves credit for being able to keep it together and get the victory. Now we have to focus on the next two games to be able to reach our dream."

More than 41,000 fans were on hand at the Arena Corinthians, the stadium which opened the World Cup two years ago.

LeBron signs $100M contract with Cavaliers

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# Joel outlasts Jonah in finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Andrew Palino delivered in the homestretch to tow Joel to a thrilling 81-78 win over Jonah in the youth division finals of the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Joel's Andrew Palino pulls up for a one-hander against Jonah's Gios Gozon during the closing seconds of their title game in the youth division of the Genesis Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Joel quarterback scored 8 straight points in less than a minute and had two crucial steals to help the top-ranked Joel get the division championship and survive a gallant stand from Jonah.

Two of Palino's four consecutive baskets brought Joel within one, 75-76, after his team fell behind by as much

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# Bears get win in rained-out finals opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears played enough innings to take the win in the rained-out Game 1 of their title series against the BSI Aces in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Bears were head, 4-2, at the top of the sixth inning with the BSI Aces' Angel Falig at bat and has been called for two balls and a strike when rain halted the play. League organizers then waited for 30 minutes for the rain to stop, but it did not, leaving SBL tournament director Tony Rogolifoi without a choice, but to declare the Bears the winner as per league rules. Rogolifoi explained that a rained-out game is considered a regular one if

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The BSI Aces' Eric Palacios gets ready to bat, while the Bears' Peyton Lizama positions for a catch, and umpire Tony Satur looks on during the top of the sixth inning of Game 1 of the title series in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## US landmark arrives: 1,000 Summer Olympic gold medals

OLYMPIC GAMES Rio2016 Roundup

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (AP)—When Simone Manuel touched the wall to clinch a gold medal Saturday night, it was a moment 120 years in the making.

The U.S. women's 4x100-meter medley relay team of Kathleen Baker, Lilly King, Dana Vollmer and Manuel—winners at the Rio Games on Saturday night—is being recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as delivering the nation's 1,000th gold medal in Summer Olympics history.

By their count, anyway. Keeping count of the gold total is not as exact a science as one might think.

The count accepted by the U.S. Olympic Committee coming into the Rio Games was 977 gold medals, and even that was adjusted a bit in recent weeks over a debated medal from the 1904 St. Louis Games. That means the gold medal in the women's eights on Saturday morning was the 21st for the Americans in Rio, and No. 998 overall. Some sites say there's a few more, some say a bit less. The USOC count is the accepted one.

And the relay win was No. 23 in Rio, so by the USOC's count that made it official.

"A gold medal is like a newborn baby," said long jumper Jeff Henderson, who put the U.S. on the brink with gold No. 999 earlier Saturday night. "It's just lovely."

Lovely, 1,000 times over now for the Americans.

"A remarkable achievement made possible by the culture of sport that is the fabric and foundation of Team USA," USOC CEO Scott Blackmun said Saturday night.

James Connolly won the first for the U.S. in 1896, and of course no one has added

See US on Page 26

AP
United States' Simone Manuel celebrates after they won the gold medal in the women's 4x100m medley relay during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics, Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

| COUNTRIES | G | S | B | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| UNITED STATES | 24 | 18 | 19 | 61 |
| CHINA | 13 | 11 | 17 | 41 |
| GREAT BRITAIN | 10 | 13 | 7 | 30 |
| GERMANY | 8 | 5 | 3 | 16 |
| JAPAN | 7 | 3 | 14 | 24 |
| RUSSIA | 6 | 9 | 8 | 23 |
| AUSTRALIA | 6 | 7 | 9 | 22 |
| ITALY | 6 | 7 | 5 | 18 |
| KOREA | 6 | 3 | 4 | 13 |
| FRANCE | 5 | 8 | 5 | 18 |
| HUNGARY | 5 | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| NETHERLANDS | 3 | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| SPAIN | 3 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| NEW ZEALAND | 2 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| CANADA | 2 | 2 | 8 | 12 |
| KAZAKHSTAN | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| BELGIUM | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| THAILAND | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| CROATIA | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| SWITZERLAND | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| IRAN | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| SWEDEN | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| DENMARK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| DPR KOREA | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| BELARUS | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |

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